Daily Report

Soviet Union

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27 September 1991

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FBIS-SOV-91-188 *27 September 1991*

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS: The United States Government recognizes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

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Worldwide Issues

Pankin Holds Meetings With Counterparts at UN

LD2609156491 Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] United Nations September 26 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin held meetings on Wednesday with his Pakistani, Brazilian and Chilean counterparts at the U.N. building in New York.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Akram Zaki said the new government of his country will double its efforts to reach political settlement in Afghanistan and will do everything possible to free Soviet prisoners of war. We realize how important it is for the Soviet people and the leadership, he said.

Boris Pankin said it is important that other countries follow suit and stop arms deliveries to the opposing sides in afghanistan like the Soviet Union and the United States did. Both ministers agreed bilateral cooperation should be boosted both on the federal and republican levels.

Good political relations between the Soviet Union and Brazil should help develop practical cooperation, Boris Pankin and his Brazilian counterpart Francisco Rezek agreed. The questions will be discussed during Francisco Rezek's coming visit to the Soviet Union. On behalf of his government and people the Brazilian foreign minister confirmed the invitation to Mikhail Gorbachev to make an official visit to his country.

Soviet and Chilean views on international problems and, in particular, on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons coincide, Boris Pankin and Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma agreed. Regular consultations are now to be held between the two foreign ministries. The countries have ample possibilities for fruitful cooperation in fishing, protecting the reserves of the antarctic and fighting drug trafficking.

Discusses Arms Control With Baker

LD2709094191 Moscow TASS in English 0849 GMT 27 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Nikolay Maslov]

[Text] United Nations Organisation September 27 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, leading the Soviet delegation at the 46th U.N. General Assembly session, met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Thursday. During their two-hour meeting they discussed a wide range of problems dealing with bilateral cooperation and the coordination of efforts of the two countries in the international arena. Special attention was devoted to the rendering of assistance to the Soviet Union during the transition period by the G7, the European Community and a number of other countries.

A coordinated programme of action is gradually emerging in the rendering of international assistance to us, Pankin told TASS after the meeting. A group of high-ranking officials representing G7 and 12 European countries are planning to visit Moscow to hold talks. They will discuss how the Soviet Union can make the best use of the medium-term credit offer. They plan to create a new distribution network. The American side will be looking for evidence that the Soviet Union has adopted an irreversible path to major economic reforms to establish foundations for a market economy. American assistance is directed more towards long-term economic solutions than short-term humanitarian investments.

Pankin said he and Baker discussed a whole range of problems surrounding the arms talks. Understanding was reached that it was necessary to begin the process of the ratification of treaties on strategic and conventional armaments. The U.S. side expressed profound satisfaction over the Soviet Union's enthusiasm.

Assistants to the U.S. secretary of state and Soviet deputy foreign ministers will confer in Washington on October 9. They will discuss a detailed schedule for this process. The Soviet Union emphatically insists on the need for starting "talks on tactical nuclear weapons and the termination of all nuclear tests.

They went on to discuss preparations for the international conference on the Middle East and the world response to the joint Soviet-American statement on Afghanistan. American moves, not only to cease all arms deliveries to Afghanistan by January 1992, but also to persuade other countries to follow suit was welcomed by the Soviet foreign minister. In addition, the U.S. will continue to exert great pressure to win the release of Soviet prisoners of war. It is hoped a full list of their names will be published soon.

It was my second meeting with Baker. We wasted no time and got down to business immediately, after discussing recent changes in the USSR, Pankin said. Our talks were sound, based on mutual trust and respect for each other.

On the same day the Soviet foreign minister had long conversations with ministers from France, Iran, Syria and Canada, and with representatives of other countries. According to Pankin, they were all inspired by the growing activity in Soviet foreign policy. They all welcome the proclamation of independence of the Baltic republics. But the ministers expressed concern about certain statements in some mass media organs, about a final disintegration of the Soviet Union. Developing countries and Europe are keen for the Soviet Union to continue playing the role of a great power.

EC 'Surprised' by Amount of USSR Aid Request

PM2609121391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 91 Union Edition p 1

[Unattributed report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, RIA roundup: "EC Surprised by Amount of Aid Requested by USSR"]

[Text] After receiving a letter from Ivan Silayev last week with a list of goods worth more than $8.5 billion, Jacques Delors, chairman of the EC Commission, said: "The EC alone cannot pay for all this. This is also a matter for the G-7."

Socialist International Notes Urgency of USSR Aid

PM2409154591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 91 Single Edition p 1

[Report by unidentified PRAVDA correspondent: "The Idea of Socialism Is Not Dead"]

[Text] Berlin, 23 Sep—The words in the headline were uttered by Socialist International Chairman Willy Brandt before the session. He added that social democrats the world over will continue to share these ideas.

At a closed session the presidium discussed the development of the situation in the Soviet Union. In a resolution adopted at the end of the session the Sociailist International Presidium advocated giving our country urgent food aid. In the opinion of the leaders of this international organization, deliveries should begin immediately. Food must be delivered in particular to the big cities. Moreover, all-embracing technical assistance should be given to economic transformations both in Russia and in other republics.

Willy Brandt also noted that the Socialist International will strengthen relations with all reformist forces in the USSR.

The Socialist International leadership arrived at the conclusion that the disintegration of the Soviet Union is by no means in the world community's interests. "Fundamental joint work between Russia and as many other republics as possible" is needed instead. Moreover, the resolution expresses support for plans to create in our country a political union of the republics and a single center having full responsibility for control of all Soviet nuclear forces.

The second item of discussion was the situation in Yugoslavia. The presidium opposed "European military intervention in Yugoslavia" because it would increase the risk of other states' involvement in the conflict and would be "emphatically opposed by the participating sides, in particular the Yugoslav Army."

Forum Considers Ethnic Minority, Refugee Problems

PM2509171791 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Sep 91 p 3

[Report by Olga Burkaleva: "Do Refugees Have Rights?"]

[Text] An international seminar on the theme "Prospects for all-European cooperation following the Paris CSCE conference. Chances for the peaceful social and federal development of the European peoples" opened 13 September in the Moscow House of Friendship. The seminar is taking place within the framework of the parallel measures of the Moscow CSCE Conference on the Human Dimension. It is attended by representatives of public and academic organizations in 15 European countries and the United States and by Soviet and foreign academics and public figures.

Summing up the three-day debate on the rights of ethnic minorities in an altered Europe, Dmitriy Shestakov, head of the institute of human rights and political research in Moscow, noted that although in the past the discussion of human rights at European forums has often developed into mutual recriminations, these discussions took place in a spirit of cooperation.

He stressed that ethnic minority problems are nothing new as far as the world public is concerned, however methods of solving them by legal and political means have already been determined abroad. The status of refugees has not been settled legislatively in the USSR.

The rights of ethnic minorities and refugees in the republics of the Soviet Union are a new problem for human rights protection organizations. So said Goran Melander, head of the Raul Wallenberg Institute (Sweden). He noted that refugees and displaced persons cannot count on assistance from the UN high commissioner for refugees.

Roundtable Examines Freedom of Press Problems

LD2509205291 Moscow TASS in English 0124 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow September 24 TASS—"Notwithstanding big positive changes, substantial problems as regards the exercise of the freedom of the press still exist in the Soviet Union and central European countries," Leonard Marx, chairman of a round-table meeting on the subject "the Role of the Free Press in a Democratic Society," told TASS. At the meeting, which ended here on Tuesday, Marx represented the World Committee in Defence of the Press.

The round-table meeting was organised by the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries together with the World Commitee in Defence of the Press under the auspices of the U.N. Public Information Department.

For two days, participants in the meeting, representing the news organisations of the Soviet Union, the United States, France, Luxembourg, Italy and a number of other countries, discussed problems concerning the media activities.

At a final news conference, Leonard Marx mentioned the following obstacles to the exercise of the freedom of the press: the remaining pressure by political forces, the monopoly of state structures on printing facilities, and the absence of laws supporting the media. At the same time he admitted that positive trends in this respect had begun to emerge.

Leonard Marx voiced hope that the results of the round-table meeting would make a contribution to the current third CSCE Conference in Moscow on the Human Dimension.

SST Project Participation Agreed 'In Principle'

PM2609132191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 91 Single Edition p 3

[PRAVDA-TASS report: "USSR-West"]

[Text] 18 Sep—Agreement in principle to the Soviet Union's participation in the elaboration of a next-generation SST supersonic passenger aircraft has been reached between leading West European, U.S. and Japanese aerospace companies, which have set up an international consortium to implement the project. The USSR will be able to start work within the consortium once its members settle the question of safeguarding against any transfer to the Soviet side of state-of-the-art developments which could have military applications, the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI writes. The A.N. Tupolev Special Design Bureau has stated its willingness to take part in the project.

United States & Canada

Talks With U.S. Focus on El Salvador, Cuba

LD2609220991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0855 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] New York, 26 Sep (TASS)—Consultations have been held in New York between V.D. Nikolayenko, deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs, and B. Aronson, assistant U.S. secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

At the center of attention was a settlement in El Salvador and the situation around Cuba.

Both sides advocated speeding up progress toward a political settlement in El Salvador and expressed satisfaction at the substantial closing of the gap between the sides at talks currently being held, with the personal involvement of the UN secretary general. The USSR and the United States will continue to undertake all the necessary efforts, both in parallel and jointly, in order to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution of the key issues in ensuring peace in El Salvador.

It was noted that the recent initiative of the USSR leadership on the phased withdrawal of the training brigade from Cuba is in line with the new positive realities in the world and will facilitate a reduction of tension around this country and in the region as a whole. The Soviet side stressed that, to this end, the adoption of appropriate steps, including the establishment of direct dialogue with Havana on issues that divide the United States and Cuba, is necessary from the U.S. side, too.

U.S. Senate Ratifies Bering Sea Agreement

PM2609142591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 91 Single Edition p 4

[From PRAVDA-TASS-REUTER "Twenty-Four Hours" roundup: "U.S.-USSR"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate has ratified the agreement with the Soviet Union that ends the disputes over the border between the two countries in the Bering Sea region. The agreement, approved by 86 votes to six, divides spheres of the two countries' influence over a sector of sea area of 54,600 square kilometers. The disagreements between the two sides were because both sides established the borders of their economic zones at 200 nautical miles (350 km) from their coastline. In accordance with the agreement, fish and mineral resources from an area constituting 70 percent of the disputed region have been transferred to the United States.

China

Moiseyev Resignation Delays SU-27's to PRC

PM2609194391 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 3

[By correspondent A. Kabannikov: "Not Every SU-27 Will Fly Over Great Wall of China"]

[Text] Hanoi—Events in the Soviet Union may hold up the delivery of a squadron of 24 SU-27 combat aircraft to China. It was originally planned for the end of this year but was later deferred until February 1992 because of technical problems. The dates for training 20 Chinese military pilots in the USSR to fly the aircraft are also in doubt.

These problems were to have been resolved during a visit to Beijing at the end of September by former USSR Defense Ministry Chief of General Staff Moiseyev. Now, because of his resignation, they have been put off until his successor goes there. China already has three SU-27 aircraft at an air base in the north of the country.

Northeast Asia

Japan To Propose Special Economic Zones to USSR

PM2609125191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 91 Single Edition p 3

[PRAVDA-TASS report: "Japan"]

[Text] 18 Sep—Japan intends to propose to the Soviet Union its concept for the creation of special economic zones designed to promote the spread within the USSR of practical "survival" techniques in a modern market economy. The project is currently being drawn up by the country's Ministry of International Trade and Industry. The project envisages the creation of wholly foreign-owned enterprises within the special economic zones.

Nakayama Sums Up Japan-USSR Relations at UN

LD2509235191 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] New York, United Nations September 25 TASS—The principles of Japan's relations with the Soviet Union were summed up by Taro Nakayama, Japanese foreign minister, in a statement he delivered at the session of the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday [24 September]. Journalists noted that the statement of the head of the Japanese delegation was much friendlier tones with regard to the USSR than statements at the sessions in the previous years.

"The wave of reform under way in the Soviet Union gives us hope that it may be possible to develop a new cooperative relationship with that country in the course of the new international political and economic order", the minister said.

"Japan sincerely welcomes the historic changes taking place in the Soviet Union, and intends to work to develop a new relationship based upon the following principles.

"First is the principle of strong support for and solidarity with the total thrust of the reforms in Soviet domestic and foreign policy and of enhancing and expanding appropriate and effective assistance.

"The second is that of dramatically strengthening and enhancing multifaceted cooperation with the republics especially our neighbour, the Russian Republic. In this connection Japan very much appreciates the view expressed by the leadership of the Russian Republic that the distinction between victor and vanquished has no place in the creation of the new world order, and hopes to strengthen new cooperative relations along these lines.

"The third is that of expanding appropriate cooperation so that an open Soviet Union can be accepted as a truly constructive partner in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The fourth is that of actively supporting expanded cooperative relations of the Soviet Union with international economic organisations so as to integrate the Soviet Union into the world economy.

"The fifth and most important is that of concluding, in line with the principle of law and justice as emphasised by the Russian Republic, a peace treaty between our two countries by way of resolving the territorial issue at the earliest possible time. Japan is confident that such a dramatic improvement in Japanese-Soviet relations can make a creative contribution to the structuring of the new world order that we all desire," the minister said.

Describing the situation emerging in the Soviet Union as one of historic transition toward the universal values of freedom and democracy, Nakayama expressed the hope that the Soviet Union will be fulfilling the obligations assumed in the arms limitation area and would be exercising strict control over nuclear arms.

Nakayama said Japan would like to propose the establishment of a conflict-prevention system that would, specifically, envisage dispatching on-site fact-finding missions, issuing "early warnings" as the situation requires, and conducting good offices and mediation efforts under the authority of the U.N. secretary-general.

There is an urgent need to establish a United Nations reporting system that would enhance the transparency of international transfer of conventional weapons, Nakayama said.

Kurils Dispute To Highlight Nakayama's Visit

Also Economic Assistance

OW2509174391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1621 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A senior Japanese embassy official in Moscow says the territorial dispute will be high on the agenda of the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama's talks with the leaders of the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation. Japan's economic assistance to Russia and the Union in general will be among other issues to be discused.

The Japanese diplomat has told DP [Diplomatic Panorama] that no exact date for Taro Nakayama's visit to Moscow has been set yet. Reports in both Japanese and Soviet press say it is most likely to take place in the middle of next month.

The diplomat couldn't say whether the problem of "northern territories" and economic assistance from Japan were linked. He believes, however, that there is an indirect connection after all. "If relations between Japan and the Soviet Union improve, the question of economic assistance will be easier to settle," the diplomat says.

The Japanese embassy official believes that the recent visit to Tokyo by a Russian delegation under acting chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov was helpful in terms of progress towards a settlement of the territorial dispute. He said the Russian Federation leaders were seeking in earnest to prevent that problem from overshadowing relations between neighbouring countries in the future.

The diplomat said it was very hard to tell when Japan and the Soviet Union would be able to conclude a peace treaty. He only repeated the statement that in his view the Russian Federation sincerely wants to improve relations between the two countries and exerted appropriate efforts to this end. The diplomat said that Japan pinned the hope for doing away with the legacy of the past on those efforts.

He said it was very unclear whether there were any differences between Russia and the Union in approaches to handling the territorial dispute with Japan. "The position of the RSFSR has positive aspects and Russia seems to be more active in dealing with that problem," the Japanese diplomat said.

Scheduling Difficulties Foreseen

OW2609150991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The date for the visit to Moscow by Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama has not been set—as INTERFAX has been informed today, Thursday [26 September], by the press service of the USSR President. The visit was planned for early October, but "some difficulties have turned up", according to the press service senior officer.

The difficulties, he continued, are not due to the schedule of M. Gorbachev with whom the Japanese minister would like to meet in Moscow, but proceed from the Japanese side. However, he epressed hope that Taro Nakayama will nevertheless come to the Soviet Union next month.

Liberal Democrats From USSR, Japan Hold Talks

OW2609220691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Moscow, there has been a meeting of the leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of the Soviet Union Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and a Japanese parliamentary delegation led by the Deputy General Secretary of the Socialist Party Ito Tuji. LDP's press secretary has said that cooperation between the two parties was discussed.

Zhirinovskiy believes that Japan's Liberal Democrats are making a mistake by supporting the "Democratic Russia" alliance that has taken power in Russia. Zhirinovskiy described the alliance as neo-Bolshevist. He says that the Japanese Social Democrats could help build a new type of world relations and put an end to East-West confrontation and the North-South division of the spheres of influence.

Zhirinovsky said that it would be possible to bring up the question of handing over to Japan the disputed "northern territories" - four islands of the Kuril archipelago - if Japan took a more favourable position on the question of territorial compensation to Russia in other parts of the world. Zhirinovskiy did not specify what territories he had in mind. The LDP press secretary said that the idea of territory-for-territory exchange was received by the Japanese side with understanding.

Japan, West Coordinate Approaches to Changes

PM2509143591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Sep 91 Single Edition p 5

[By correspondent I. Latyshev: "Common Approaches Coordinated: Japan and the NATO Countries"]

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Sep—The last few days have been marked by a whole series of meetings and talks between Japanese statesmen and representatives of U.S. and West European government circles. The talks are aimed at coordinating general approaches to the changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union during the last few weeks.

E. Nakao, the Japanese International Trade and Industry minister, has held a whole series of talks overseas. During these meetings, agreements were reached about information exchange and the coordinated actions of Japan and the United States in questions that relate to helping the Soviet Union in its efforts to switch to a market economy. At the present stage, government circles in both countries have not shown any readiness to offer the Soviet Union any large-scale financial subsidies or credits. Their contribution to helping our country overcome its economic difficulties will, for the time being, be channeled mainly into technical consultations and humanitarian aid in the form of food and medical supplies. Neither did the participants in the Japanese-U.S. talks show any desire to lift the notorious restrictions imposed by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls on exporting to our country machines and appliances based on the very latest technology, justifying this action by saying that "the situation in the Soviet Union still remains unclear." Reports from Washington stress that both sides intend to follow particularly closely the process of converting the Soviet defense industry to the peaceful production of goods. In this respect both the United States and Japan are prepared to offer the Soviet Union active assistance. And one other important fact: Both sides have come to the conclusion that, unlike in the past, U.S. and Japanese technical consultations will be offered, not primarily to

all-Union institutions, but to individual republics that have declared their independence.

Over the last few days parallel talks on the same issues have been held in Tokyo by NATO Secretary General M. Woerner, who met with Prime Minister T. Kaifu and other prominent statesmen here. He called on Japanese ruling circles to establish closer contacts with NATO countries in order to exchange information and to initiate consultations regarding the situation in the Soviet Union, emphasizing the intention of the NATO leadership to support "reformist forces" in the Soviet Union. At the same time, Japanese Foreign Ministry leaders told journalists, Woerner let it be known that he "personally" doubts whether the reforms being carried out in the Soviet Union will be successfully implemented. It seems that, in the same connection, Woerner told the Japanese that "henceforth NATO plans to keep its armed might at the lowest level needed to keep the Soviet Union in check," in case anything unforeseen occurs in that country.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes Koreas' UN Membership

LD2309162791 Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 23 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 23 TASS—As is known, on September 17, the Republic of Korea and the Korean Democratic Peoples' Republic became fully-fledged members of the United Nations.

The North Korean Foreign Ministry has issued a statement to mark the occasion and assure the word community that in this new capacity the North Korean Republic would make active efforts to help preserve peace on earth, develop international relations and expand friendship and cooperation among all states.

The statement confirms the policy towards Korean unification irrespective of the membership of the North and South republics in this international organisation. It expresses confidence that the United Nations will duly contribute to the cause of just settlement on the Korean Peninsula.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry views the membership of both Korean states in the United Nations as a major step along the road of strengthening peace and security in Korea and Asia.

This step, the Soviet Ministry believes, will also stimulate the development of intra-Korean contacts in a variety of fields and thus facilitate the peaceful, democratic settlement of the Korean problem.

The world experience shows that membership of split countries—Germany and Yemen—in the United Nations is no barrier to their unification, provided both sides are willing.

In present circumstances, when the role of the United Nations in settling regional disputes has considerably increased, it can be expected that a settlement in Korea can be achieved more easily and faster through interaction with the world community.

It is obvious that after the two Korean states have joined the United Nations, issues inherited from the 1950-1953 war can be put on the agenda, including the issue of U.N. forces in Korea and the replacement of the truce agreement, signed with the South Korean side by the U.N. force commandment, by a peace treaty.

It cannot be regarded as normal or logical that the United Nations Is actually in the state of war with one of its members.

We share the [word indistinct] expressed in the statement by the North Korean Foreign Ministry, that in future Korea will occupy one seat in the United Nations, and hope that the membership of North and South Koreas in the United Nations will enrich the Organisations's activity and confirm its universal character.

It can be expected that both Korean states will make practical steps to facilitate the accomplishment of tasks facing the United Nations by reducing the level of military-political confrontation on the peninsula, adjusting relations with U.N. specialized agencies, including the International Atomic Energy Agency, and developing mutual good-neighborly relations and cooperation as the basis of further rapprochement and unification.

Commentary on North-South Korea Admission to UN

SK2609124791 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 0900 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By station commentator (Borisov)]

[Text] The DPRK and ROK admission to the United Nations was a great historic event for the Korean people. Since the nation's division, the two Koreas have submitted their applications to join the United Nations seven times. After 40 years, it finally happened. Station commentator (Borisov) writes as follows:

Regarding the two Koreas' admission to the United Nations, the DPRK issued a statement. It said that the republic's sovereignty and dignity were recognized and expressed appreciation to the international community for the UN admission. The statement said that the UN admission gave the DPRK the opportunity to develop friendly and cooperative relations with more countries than before.

There was a time when relations between the DPRK and the United Nations were not good. For example, under the banner of the United Nations, the United States and its allied forces participated in the 1950-53 Korean war.

The Pyongyang side always recognized that the United Nations, which adopted this decision then, must take the responsibility. However, it seems that the mutual accusations are in the past.

The DPRK is anticipating that the United Nations will forget past differences and contribute to the cause of Korea's reunification. At this time Pyongyang is acknowledging that it is necessary to find ways to reunify the nation. I think that this is a rational and constructive attitude.

Past experience shows that even though a divided nation may join the United Nations as separate entities, the former will not interfere in the nation's reunification. We can cite Germany and Yemen as examples.

DPRK Foreign Ministry statements have repeatedly emphasized that the DPRK is committed peaceful reunification, which precludes northward or southward communization or invasion of the South or North. I believe that no one will oppose this kind of attitude. This issue must be resolved by the Koreans themselves.

It is clear that the military confrontation on the Korean peninsula must end and the armistice turned into a peace treaty so that North-South relations can be changed into a friendly and cooperative relationship.

Of course, the world's community will actively support our efforts to achieve this goal.

West Europe

Rutskoy, UK's Major Discuss Economic Cooperation

LD2609203991 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Voronkov]

[Text] London September 26 TASS—British Prime Minister John Major met Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy today in his residence on 10, Downing Street.

Rutskoy stayed in London on a working visit to participate in the conference of the London global power research centre.

The sides used the opportunity to discuss in detail the global situation that has shaped up in Russia, as well as the program of economic reforms in the Soviet Union, sources at the British prime minister's office told TASS.

An office representative said that Rutskoy explored the ground for ways to consolidate political and economic cooperation between Great Britain and Russia.

Today, the Russian vice president left for Moscow.

Stockholm Envoy Resumes Leadership at Embassy

PM2609161691 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 25 Sep 91 p A8

[By Kerstin Kall: "Uspenskiy Continues as Ambassador"]

[Text] Soviet Ambassador Nikolay Uspenskiy has now informed both the Foreign Ministry and the Swedish mass media that he has returned to Stockholm to continue his work as Soviet ambassador.

When his predecessor in the post of Stockholm ambassador, new Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, paid a flying visit to Sweden, he spoke in terms the Foreign Ministry interpreted as meaning Uspenskiy would only be coming back to pack and say good-bye.

Uspenskiy has not asked for a meeting with the foreign minister since his return to Stockholm. In full harmony with protocol, at the time of his departure the Foreign Ministry received a note from the embassy informing it of the ambassador's journey and stating the the embassy's number two was responsible in the meanwhile, including during Pankin's visit. Last week a new protocol note arrived stating that Uspenskiy had returned to Stockholm and resumed the leadership of the embassy. The Foreign Ministry, however, is still somewhat puzzled about what is the real state of affairs. When, at his press conference in Stockholm, Boris Pankin spoke about the ambassadors who did not dissociate themselves from the coup and were recalled, he said that the ambassadors themselves could decide their own futures "after hearing our views."

"Bearing in mind the sensitive character of their work, almost all the ambassadors asked to be allowed to return to their embassies to say good-bye and then return to Moscow. I believe that Uspenskiy has reached the same decision as his colleagues," Pankin said.

But the Soviet Embassy, where Uspenskiy, according to information received by TIDNINGARNAS TELEGRAMBYRA, has the strong support of his staff, has pointed out that Pankin never said expressly that Uspenskiy would leave his post.

The Foreign Ministry is now saying rather diplomatically that Uspenskiy's announcement that he has resumed the leadership of the embassy has been noted and that the announcement remains in force until another announcement is made.

Danish Company To Equip Nuclear Power Plants

OW2609023991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2030 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From "Soviet Business Report dated 'September 26, 1991'"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Bruel & Kjaer, a Danish company specializing in the manufacture of diagnostics systems for nuclear power plants, is negotiating the sale of its products for use in the Ukraine (Yuzhno-Ukrainskaya and Zaporozhskaya facilities), central (Kaliniskaya power plant) and northern Russia (the Kola power plant). At the current stage, the Soviet side is seeking to obtain loan guarantees, a ticket to the contract.

The company has service centres in Moscow, St. Petersburg (Leningrad) and Kiev.

According to the company's Moscow official, the Soviet Union currently accounts for 8 to 9% of the Bruel & Kjaer volume of sales.

Italian Institute To Open Offices in Republics

OW2609031191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2030 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From "Soviet Business Report dated 'September 26, 1991'"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The National Institute for Foreign Trade of Italy (ICE) plans to open representative offices in the republican capitals. According to IF [INTERFAX], before 1991 is out, the institute's offices will be in operation in Kiev, the Ukraine, and Riga, Latvia, said director of the ICE's Moscow branch Enrico Bevilacqua.

ICE plans to open an office in Central Asia in 1992. The operation of the ICE regional offices in the Soviet Union and the Baltics will be coordinated by the Moscow branch.

Italian Company To Build Moscow Business Center

OW2609022691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2030 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From "Soviet Business Report dated 'September 26, 1991'"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A consortium of seven European banks gave a 11.5-year, 102 million ECU ($112 million) loan to the Moscow Academy for the National Economy for the construction in the Soviet capital of a training/business centre with a total floor space of 100,000 square metres. The complex will comprise lecture halls, libraries, conference halls, a hotel, foreign company offices and sports facilities.

With construction to start this week, the centre will have been built by March of 1994. The general contractor is Volani International S.P.A. of Italy.

The Moscow Academy for the National Economy is an authoritative school that trains business managers and economists.

Latin America & Caribbean

Dissident Says Castro Knew of Coup Beforehand

PM2609133391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Sep 91 Union Edition p 6

[Report citing undated letter from Cuban defector Rafael del Pino: "There Were Nine Conspirators. Cuban Dissident General Claims Havana Leadership Knew of Plot Being Prepared in USSR"]

[Text] We, the people who have worked with F. Castro for many years, know full well that he does not have the slightest compunction in betraying his recent ally, which is standing in the way of his power-hungry ambitions.

A whole series of events that took place in the first half of this year show that Castro not only knew of the coup being prepared in the USSR but also indirectly participated in the preparation of this shameful venture.

On 22 February this year Castro sends General Juan Escalona to Moscow. This general is one of the regime's chief executioners—it was he who headed the Stalinist-style show trial against Arnaldo Ochoa, who was accused of drug smuggling. During his visit to Moscow Escalona met with a whole host of Soviet leaders who were involved in the putsch, and in particular with A. Lukyanov. On 27 May KGB Chairman Vladimir Kryuchkov arrives in Havana at Castro's personal invitation. Kryuchkov stayed in Havana until 1 June, and in that time he held several secret talks with Castro at which he asked the Cuban leader to use all his influence in the nonaligned movement so that these countries would support the future return of Soviet policies based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

Three weeks later, on 25 June, Castro sends to Moscow Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, in order to test the water in the USSR. Aldana meets with the putsch leaders, specifically with Vice President G. Yanayev 28 June. Yanayev sends Castro a letter in which he urges the Cuban leader not to worry, because the "status quo will soon change."

In July there was a private showing of a video film in Cuba featuring a speech by Castro in which he analyzes the Cuban crisis and talks, in particular, about how high-level USSR leaders have guaranteed to him that "soon the situation will change."

Castro applauded the Soviet invasions of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, and the shooting in Tiananmen Square. He has now miscalculated in underestimating the courage and decisiveness of the Soviet people who resisted the latest reactionary onslaught.

[Signed] Rafael del Pino

R. del Pino is a Cuban general, a fighter pilot, and one of the creators of the Cuban Armed Forces after the victory of the revolution. He participated in the fighting at Playa Giron. He was Air Force commander in chief of the Cuban corps in Angola, and deputy commander in chief of the republic's Air Forces and Air Defense Forces. He breaks with the Cuban regime in May 1987. The reason—he does not agree with the policies of Castro, who has established authoritarian antidemocratic systems on the island.

Political & Social

Gorbachev Creates Presidential Business Council

LD2709082191 Moscow TASS in English 0729 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS—President Mikhail Gorbachev on Thursday issued a decree on creating a Presidential Council for business activities.

The council "aims to promote business development and the forming of a market structure of economic relations in a common economic space, with due account of the interests of business circles during economic reform and to protect their rights".

First Vice-President of the Soviet Scientific and Industrial Union Aleksandr Vladislavlev was appointed council chairman. The council includes prominent economist Pavel Bunich, President of the Russian Commodity and Raw Material Exchange Konstantin Borovoy, heads of banks, insurance companies, small and joint ventures, cooperatives and organisations of business women and private owners.

The decree instructs the council to form a coordinated position of business circles on the economic development and business activities in the country, create necessary legal, financial and economic conditions and promote the observance of laws and normative enactments in this sphere".

Later in the day, Gorbachev met prominent business people and members of the council.

Participants noted that it is especially necessary for business activities to retain a common economic space in the country, remove allnmbstacles and barriers and normalise money circulation and strengthen the rouble.

"I believe that the creation of the council is a revolution," President of the USSR Scientific and Industrial Union Arkadiy Volskiy told TASS. "It will let us move towards a market at a needed pace."

Meets Business Representatives

LD2709040591 Moscow TASS in English 0023 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev today met representatives of the Soviet business community, members of the Council on Business under the Soviet president.

Meeting participants noted a great role business, initiative and enterprise are bound to play in the improvement of the economy, overcoming the crisis, the increase of industrial and agricultural output and the general upgrading of living standards.

They stressed that the preservation of a single economic space in the country, the non-admission of various obstacles and barriers, the normalisation of monetary circulation and stabilisation of the rouble have special importance for the development of business.

The sides also discussed the need to speed up the privatization, create favourable conditions for business, including small and medium, legally protect enterprise and provide for the safety of commercial secrets.

Summing up the results of the conversation, Gorbachev stresses that the very fact of this meeting and the creation of the Council on Business under the Soviet president, testify to the great importance attached by the Soviet leadership to the development of enterprise.

The council can become an important instrument of contributing to the policy of economic reform conducted by highest state bodies, and the deepening of market processes.

It is very important that the council unites leaders of the business world, big organizers who can do business themselves.

In the opinion of the president, the council should consider all directions of business development and all spheres of the economy. It will take active part in the preparations and examination of decisions on economic issues, and be an initiator of putting topical questions of economic reforms in the country.

It is especially important to note what should be done in the first place to open up broad space for business and determine priorities in this area.

"Representatives of the business community expressed in this conversation with the president many valuable proposals on the transition to the market system," Chairman of the Soviet Scientific and Industrial Union Arkadiy Volskiy told TASS.

"But the most important is that meeting participants have come to an agreement on the creation of a highest business body under the Soviet president.

"I believe that it is a revolutionary decision. It will help us move towards the market at the necessary speed."

"The main direction of the council's activities is the creation of conditions at the presidential level to develop free enterprise in the Soviet Union. It is good that the council will have functions of a really operating body," Vladimir Tikhonov, chairman of the union of cooperative workers and other non-state enterprises of the USSR, told TASS.

Political Consultative Council Membership Examined

LD2609202191 Moscow TASS in English 1958 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—What will be the role of the Political Consultative Council at the Soviet president, announced by Mikhail Gorbachev on Wednesday?

The composition of the Council evidently reveals that it will hardly be an "obedient" body unanimously rubber-stamping the president's decisions and blindly obeying his will. The Council comprises prominent political and public figures, whose names have become well known in the country during perestroika.

In addition to their business-like qualities, most of them are known for their principled and independent stand. It is clear that they had not been chosen according to the "personal devotion" principle. Most of them often sharply criticised the Soviet president.

The Council includes two most authoritative politicians, who had no official posts recently—former Soviet foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze and the Soviet president's former senior adviser Aleksandr Yakovlev considered an ideologue of perestroika.

Several years ago, both of them were members of the top Party hierarchy—the Soviet Communist Party CC Politburo. They played a remarkable role in unmasking conservative forces in the Communist Party and admitted that it is impossible to make the CPSU a democratic party from "inside".

Shevardnadze and Yakovlev parted with Gorbachev after conservative forces began winning in the country's leadership struggle. Now, they are returning to the president.

Current Soviet KGB Chairman Vadim Bakatin is another politician, known for his left-centrist outlook, who was set aside as conservatives invigorated their activities. Last December, Bakatin had to resign as Soviet interior minister.

The Council has prominent scholars, such as Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, economist Nikolay Petrakov, former Gorbachev's aide, and Yuriy Ryzhov, a renowned member of the Soviet Parliament.

For the first time, the president invited two acclaimed democratic activists—Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov and St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak—to work with him. Former editor-in-chief of the Liberal MOSCOW NEWS weekly Yegor Yakovlev, now heading the Soviet Television and Radio Company, is also on the Council.

Five of the nine members of the Council—Aleksandr Yakovlev, Shevardnadze, Popov, Sobchak and Petrakov—were among initiators of the creation of the Democratic Reform Movement, which is expected to become a serious political force in the near future.

The Council includes none of the prominent representatives from the Russian leadership or people closely connected with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, except the Moscow mayor. This might have resulted from understanding that the inclusion of Russian representatives could bewilder or even arouse protests from other republics.

Shevardnadze on Appointment

LD2609152591 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondents Aleksandras Budris and Nikolay Stepanchenko]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze described as a "great responsibility and high honour" his appointment as member of the Political Consultative Council of the USSR president and head of the state delegation of the Union for negotiations with the Lithuanian Republic.

Shevardnadze told TASS that he had accepted Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal after much thought. He decided to give up any participation in state structures long before the events of August 19-21 when the threat of a right-wing coup compelled him to concentrate on the efforts to consolidate the country's democratic forces.

Shevardnadze said this task remains a top priority for him at a time when there is an acute socio-political and economic situation in the country. "The menace has not been removed. It is mounting. There is danger that the positions of the right-wing, reactionary forces will strengthen," Shevardnadze said.

In the interests of the Democratic Reform Movement there should be a painless transition to a new way of life of peoples and sovereign states in a single EuroAsian space, said Shevardnadze, who is one of co-chairmen of the Democratic Reform Movement.

"Now that President Gorbachev acts vigorously in this direction, I believe it my duty to agree to his proposal and enter together with people whose views I share in the political consultative council and work in the council toward stabilising the situation in the country," he said.

Shevardnadze said these considerations made him accept the proposal to head the USSR delegation for the negotiations with the Lithuanian Republic.

Teimuraz Stepanov, Shevardnadze's aide, told TASS that before the appointment Shevardnadze had a meeting with the Soviet president which lasted for about five hours. Aleksandr Yakovlev, who also became a member of the Political Consultative Committee, took part in the meeting.

Republics Sign Joint Economic Relations Agreement

LD2609224391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2117 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Petr Tsyrendorzhiyev]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Sept (TASS)—The need for coordinated foreign economic activity of the sovereign republics has been reaffirmed by the participants in an interrepublican conference that ended today. It was convened at the initiative of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations.

Questions connected with the distribution among the republics of the USSR's foreign debt, customs policy, and the introduction in the near future of the domestic convertibility of the ruble were examined.

The representatives of 10 republics signed a package of corresponding documents. Only the Ukrainian delegation postponed the signing of a number of protocols for a week. The Baltic states and Georgia attended the conference as observers.

An appeal to the USSR president was adopted in which an urgent switch to a new system of foreign economic relations, taking into consideration the sovereignty of the republics, is proposed. The document also stresses that the transition to the convertibility of the ruble requires a decisive reduction in expenditure on the military-industrial complex, maintaining the state apparatus and economically unjustified social programs.

Pankin Lists Policy Priorities in Interview

PM2709090191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 91 Union Edition p 6

[Interview with USSR Foreign Minister B. Pankin by IZVESTIYA political observer A. Bovin: "Foreign Policy After the Putsch: The Individual First, The State Second"]

[Text] Boris Dmitriyevich Pankin began his working life as a journalist and he grew to be chief editor of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA. The subsequent ups and downs and significant moments in his career did not let him forget that a journalist's bread is hard earned. And although the aircraft to New York was leaving in four hours and there was evidence of predeparture turmoil even in the outer offices, B.D. Pankin received your IZVESTIYA representative in his office. I asked for two hours, but I got one. "You'll have to excuse me," minister told observer, "I am impatient to be off." I excused him.

[Bovin] They say that every soldier carries a marshal's baton in his pack. Did you carry one?

[Pankin] No.

[Bovin] No baton at all?

[Pankin] I carry a different baton—it is my documentary novel about Simonov. But I do not carry that baton in my pack.

[Bovin] So you get to this office. What do you do? Your first step...

[Pankin] I did not come here at first, I went to the collegium hall. Second, I was brought there. Brought by Revenko, chief of the USSR president's apparatus, who introduced me to the collegium on the president's behalf.

I remember saying that I would not be making any coronation speeches and I wanted to ask Vladimir Fedorovich Petrovskiy to be first deputy minister. Then I said I would ask Yuriy Stepanovich Deryabin, chief of the administration for security and cooperation in Europe, whom I knew from Stockholm, to be deputy minister.

[Bovin] They were personal choices? Or were you "advised"?

[Pankin] They were my choices. I informed comrades Gorbachev and Yakovlev of them when we talked together.

It was only after the collegium that I came to this office. That was 29 August. The first thing I did was ask Petrovskiy and Deryabin to come. The first matter that arose was that of the Conference on the Human Dimension.

[Bovin] As far as I know, the matter was virtually a dead duck at that time, particularly when you recall that Yanayev had been chairman of the organizing committee.

[Pankin] Particularly as in the political sphere one had to clearly show that events were continuing as they should. We really pushed the conference. It began on the appointed date.

[Bovin] When did your collegium dissolve itself and how?

[Pankin] A collegium member came to me and said: So that you have a free choice I want to put it to the collegium that it decide to dissolve itself. I agreed. When the extraordinary congress ended, on 4 September, the collegium was convened and it dissolved itself.

It was said in the press, though, that it was inopportune. But the collegium's dissolving itself made life easier for me and did not create any problems.

[Bovin] The collegium is now reestablished?

[Pankin] Yes, it is younger too. Moreover, it was decided to invite O. Suleymenov, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy and active member of the "Semipalatinsk-Nevada" movement to join the collegium, together with the deputy ministers and chiefs of administrations. He has already been to see me and has suggested a whole stack of ideas. And another three people: A.Ye. Sebentsov, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy; A.V. Yablokov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and V.P. Lukin, chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Committee for International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations.

[Bovin] Which ambassadors retired after the failed putsch?

[Pankin] Four ambassasdors were recalled before I came on the scene and two have been recalled under me. They were all told to give their opinion on the possibility of their performing their functions in view of the situation they now find themselves in. Zamyatin asked to retire; Loginov (Yugoslavia), Uspenskiy (Sweden), Baryshev (Guinea Bissau), and Gventsade (Ireland) also made their positions clear. They left to say their goodbyes.

[Bovin] What about the fate of Dubinin?

[Pankin] Dubinin is returning.

[Bovin] Let us consider this. Trotskiy was the first Russian foreign minister and Chicherin was the first USSR foreign minister. Do you not think that you will be the last USSR foreign minister?

[Pankin] It is not something that concerns me. I will not think about it, irrespective of how long I carry on with the job. While there is a single country, there will be a single foreign policy.

[Bovin] But the single country is no longer.

[Pankin] It exists and I am sure it will continue to exist. It is the Union of sovereign states. I was at a nine-hour State Council session yesterday and I felt a surge of optimism. I believe that the independence parade, when from 22 August through 9 September eight republics declared independence, was a gesture of protest. They were defending themselves against the Union as a source of totalitarianism.

[Bovin] Or as a source of democracy?

[Pankin] Possibly. But I would say something else. When the Congress gave them the opportunity to disperse further than they ever expected, the peoples and their leaders began to wonder what life would be like in the future.

[Bovin] That is, you believe that a centripetal trend is now in operation.

[Pankin] I have no doubt. Yesterday's State Council session examined the food situation in the country and other problems, to get the country working as it used to work in better times. But the main aim is that of thinking together. The first session was not attended by everyone, but all the presidents and prime ministers were present at this one. By its very nature, this council is an executive as well as legislative body.

[Bovin] What kind of division of spheres of influence do you see between the Union Foreign Ministry and the republic (sovereign states') ministries?

[Pankin] The Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), which was set up previously, is acquiring a new lease on life and is becoming a working, rather than decorative organization. We presented the ministers with a program that says that the CFM can be a real legislative assembly, elaborating foreign policy strategy. While the collegium becomes a kind of executive bureau.

Of course, all the CFM's studies will be reported to the State Council and the president. We will meet approximately once a month. We also agreed that our Administration for Liaison with Union Repoublics would become the CFM Executive Secretariat, headed by a deputy minister. Also a republic foreign ministries' permament representatives' committee is being set up under the Union Foreign Ministry. They will be ambassadors of sorts, making it possible to have ongoing coordination of specific policies.

[Bovin] Does it not seem to you much easier to restructure organizatioinal structures than to change the mentality and overcome the inertia of the past.

[Pankin] "Seem" is not the word. What we have here is an immense problem. It is hard to escape the past. Here is a recent example. We agreed with Baker about Afghanistan. Everyone approved this accord. But it was remarked that it would have been better to consult with the republics first.

[Bovin] Why was that not done?

[Pankin] It is the same old inertia in operation. We will fight against it. Although there was a basic urgency.

[Bovin] You might say that Stalin's dream—all the republics represented at the United Nations—is at last coming true.

[Pankin] That depends on them. The Congress of People's Deputies supported it in principle. What is important now is the viewpoint of the world community. There is a degree of skepticism, fear of precedents. At the same time, it is clear that we have central organs, there is going to be a Union of sovereign states, so it will retain a permanent place in the Security Council. Everyone wants that. Particularly as the Union possesses the main nuclear potential; even Kazakhstan President Nazarbayev said that they want to solve these problems with the Union.

[Bovin] A Union of sovereign states... Does it not grate on you, the title? A state is sovereign by definition. What about a Eurasian Community of Nations?

[Pankin] Forget the title. Let us first get down to the nitty-gritty.

[Bovin] Do you feel like the foreign minister of a superpower?

[Pankin] Yes. And I'll tell you why. I was an ambassador for nine years. And ever since the dawn of perestroyka, I have increasingly felt like the ambassaor of a superpower, right down to the final day in Prague. They stopped being frightened of us. But increasingly they respected us. They all realize that the fate of the whole world depends on the Soviet Union.

I believe that our press often indulges in masochism, taking incredible delight in burying our Union, moving it to somewhere on the periphery of world politics. I cannot accept that.

[Bovin] A few words about priorities. What would your 1,2,3 be.

[Pankin] One—completion of the deideologization of our foreign political relations. For example Cuba and Afghanistan.

[Bovin] Do you not think we were tactless not to forewarn Castro of the withdrawal of the Soviet brigade?

[Pankin] It was purely accidental.

Two—economicization of foreign policy activities: Foreign policy must merge with the foreign economic sphere. Globally we must use all our diplomatic expertise to support integration with the world economic structure.

Three—in the sphere of the human dimension. Primacy of international law over national law. Individual first, state second. Not vice versa.

[Bovin] It is the first time I have heard that the priorities do not include disarmament.

[Pankin] The situation is clear. We put it on record in conversations with Baker. I stressed two points: a total ban on tactical nuclear weapons and an end to nuclear tests. The Americans are hemming and hawing. A new series of talks is envisaged on strategic offensive armaments. The United States is happy about the ratification of the treaties that have been concluded.

[Bovin] What is preventing the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel?

[Pankin] Nothing. It is important to choose the time for establishing diplomatic relations in such a way that it contributes to the commencement of a peace conference.

[Bovin] And with South Africa?

[Pankin] South Africa is changing. The time will come when we will have diplomatic relations with it.

[Bovin] A diplomat can be excused for giving diplomatic replies. But let us leave diplomacy aside. Is your novel about Simonov ready?

[Pankin] Some 1,500 pages have been written. I started with a sketch. Then the screenplay for a movie that was shown on Simonov's 70th birthday. Now the novel within a novel, so to speak, is ready—200 pages, in which I tell the story of the writing of the novel. A Swedish publishing house is printing it. The other pages are on the way.

[Bovin] Thank you. I wish you success on all fronts. You have been given a big advance, which you will have to work to earn.

[Pankin] Why will have to? I am already doing it.

Trubin on Investigation, Gorbachev Evidence

PM2709105591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 1

[Interview with USSR General Prosecutor N. Trubin by Viktoriya Vinogradova; date and place not given: "Gorbachev Was Not Involved In Coup"]

[Text] [Vinogradova] Nikolay Semenovich, you have submitted your resignation to the Supreme Soviet. What prompted this decision, and do you regret your request?

[Trubin] At the time of making the application, the press was orchestrating a frenzied campaign of mistrust toward me. I did not want to work in conditions of no confidence. Now I will do whatever is the will of the people's deputies who decide this question.

[Vinogradova] Since your resolution combining the two criminal proceedings instituted by the Union and Russian Prosecutor's Offices on the putsch case, the Union Prosecutor's Office has been silent for the most part. So who is leading the investigation, and what is the approximate ratio of investigating officers in the combined investigative group?

[Trubin] Just because we didn't hold a press conference does not mean we are keeping quiet. Supervisory functions are carried out by RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] General Prosecutor Stepankov and me together—each of us within the bounds of our own competence. It is a joint investigation, and there is no friction: The differences of opinion which emerged at the beginning have been resolved. So everything is fine. In all there are 97 investigating officers taking part in the investigation. Of these, 53 are from the Union Prosecutor's Office apparatus, including 30 from the Administration for Particularly Important Investigation and 23 from the Main Military Prosecutor's Office; 12 are from the RSFSR Prosecutor's Office; 15 are from the RSFSR Oblast Prosecutors' Offices; 11 are from the Ukrainian Prosecutor's Office; four are from Belorussia; and two are from Uzbekistan. Apart from the investigating officers, there are 15 or so prosecutors involved in the case. They carry out orders issued by Stepankov and me, and keep us informed on the investigation's progress and, naturally, they are answerable to us.

[Vinogradova] Lukyanov was arrested some time after the "eight" and even managed to be present for several days of the Union Supreme Soviet session. Even now Padva and Goffshteyn, the defense lawyers, categorically deny his involvement in the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency] affair and are insisting that he be released from custody. Were the grounds for arresting Lukyanov sufficiently weighty, and if so are they not irrelevant now?

[Trubin] I do not know in what connection these denials and demands have arisen. If the case materials had not

contained grounds for assuming his involvement in the plot, I would not have asked the USSR Supreme Soviet to lift his deputy's immunity and bring him to justice—I take responsibility for this. But there was sufficiently weighty proof in the case. There still is. I am not talking about evidence.

[Vinogradova] It is known that you and the RSFSR General Prosecutor interrogated Gorbachev. When and why did you decide to do this?

[Trubin] On the USSR president's very first day back at work after his return from Foros, he called a conference and I was invited. At this conference he recounted everything that had happened in Foros 18 August—who came to see him, what was said, and how he reacted. When he had finished his story I said: "In the light of what you have told us, Mikhail Sergeyevich, clearly you will have to enter into criminal procedure relations with us and give evidence."

[Vinogradova] How did he react?

[Trubin] He said that he sees no problems in this and that he will tell us everything he knows.

[Vinogradova] How was the interrogation conducted?

[Trubin] But for the fact that it was Gorbachev who was being interrogated, the whole thing was perfectly routine. He felt at ease. The interrogation was carried out by Frolov, chief of the Union Prosecutor's Office Rapid Response Investigative Section who is leading the investigative group. Stepankov and I participated and asked questions.

[Vinogradova] What kind of questions, if that is not a secret?

[Trubin] We wanted to take him back in time a little, to pre-August events: Did he or did he not sense the onset of reaction, the "right-wing" attack. He said the attacks against him began in earnest after the 28th Party Congress and described the situation prior to his going on vacation. For the main part, the questions were about the visit he received 18 August and after from authorized SCSE representatives: Who was there, and how they behaved.

[Vinogradova] Gorbachev was imprisoned at his dacha in Foros, in the light of which the defense lawyers participating in the case confirm that he was a victim and cannot be called as a witness in the case.

[Trubin] If you view Gorbachev as a private individual, then he was a victim: But if you view him as the embodiment of supreme power in the state and proceed from the requirements and interpretations of law, then he is a witness.

[Vinogradova] The press and the public are actively discussing the question of Gorbachev's involvement in the plot. A few days ago, even PRAVDA—which printed all the SCSE documents—virtually accused him of complicity. Having interrogated him, what is your opinion?

[Trubin] My opinion is this—Gorbachev was not involved in the plot!

[Vinogradova] Is Stepankov of the same opinion?

[Trubin] Yes. We exchanged notes after the interrogation.

[Vinogradova] And did any of the accused testify against him?

[Trubin] Nobody has done so far, but such attempts are not excluded.

[Vinogradova] Are you aware of the heated debates about the qualification of the actions of the accused?

[Trubin] Yes. I have even heard views to this effect: Why would they attempt to seize power when they already had enough authority?! But they seized supreme power by removing the legally elected president. If you argue from the angle of whether or not they wanted to overthrow the existing social and state order, then of course the answer is no, or that is what they insist, at any rate. But the process of constructing a democratic rule-of-law state was under way in our country and they sought to return to a totalitarian regime. We instituted proceedingson a charge of treason against the Motherland, or rather—from an objective standpoint—for plotting to seize power. But the final wording of the charge will be decided upon once the investigation is approaching its close.

[Vinogradova] Can you predict how long this will take?

[Trubin] I don't think it will take more than three months. We are aiming to send most of the conspirators to court individually—as soon as possible—then we will deal with the secondary elements. They are all over our country.

[Vinogradova] Are you for or against an open trial?

[Trubin] This case cannot be examined in camera. It can only be done openly despite the secret nature of some of the information.

[Vinogradova] The final question. Once the Union is no more, what will become of the Union Prosecutor's Office?

[Trubin] The old Union is crumbling and now a community will be created, probably on a confederative basis. But a law and order system at interrepublic level (perhaps an interrepublic prosecutor's oversight organ) must be preserved.

Putschists Allegedly Planned Gold Sales Slush Fund

LD2609174291 Moscow TASS in English 0837 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Ten per cent of the Soviet gold reserve, worth four billion dollars, was secretly transported from the USSR to the West on the instruction of a small group of people from the State Emergency Committee, the Moscow newspaper KURANTIY wrote. The purpose of that operation was to create a special currency fund for supporting vital industries of the Soviet Union in conditions of dramatic change in the political course of the USSR and the routing of the democratic forces.

Valentin Pavlov, former head of the Soviet Government, and his team realised that as a result of the inevitable repressions against democrats and the reestablishment of an authoritarian regime the West would stop granting credits to the USSR, at least during the first few years, and would sever trade relations in some vitally important areas. This is why it was necessary to create currency reserves in the West, which could be used for purchasing and delivering to the USSR all it needs through stooge firms. Gold was chosen for creating such a secret strategic reserve.

A sharp reaction of Soviet officials to the report, published by the GUARDIAN newspaper on September 11, which detailed the export of a large consignment of Soviet gold, started learly this year, proves the operation was carried out in complete secrecy, through special channels and dummy representatives, KURANTIY wrote.

The newspaper did not rule out a possibility of persons, who were authorised by the State Emergency Committee to sell the gold, still controlling the gold. According to Western experts, attempts to sell gold from this consignment in September led to a dramatic decline in gold prices at the London and Tokyo gold exchanges. The newspaper urged to set up immediately a special commission with the participation of interpol to investigate all facts, connected with the mysterious transportation of the gold from the USSR.

Group Demands End to Persecution of Communists

LD2609161991 Moscow TASS in English 0931 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—The Public Committee "in Defence of the Rights of Communists" has strongly denounced the actions of those senior executives from the Soviet Communist Party, who sided with participants in the anticonstitutional conspiracy of August 19-21, 1991.

Its statement published by the GLASNOST weekly today says that it is impermissible in a law-governed Democratic country for any of the parties to be above the state, to be in a privileged position, moreover, to pose a threat to the constitutional system.

At the same time the statement demanded the cancellation of anticonstitutional acts of the Soviet and Russian presidents, of resolutions of the Federal and Russian Parliaments, aimed at suspending the activities of the Soviet and Russian Communist Parties, nationalising their property and violating the rights and freedoms of millions of their members. The statement also demanded an end to anti-Communist hysteria and the persecution of Communists.

The Public Committee "in Defence of the Rights of Communists" demanded the restoration of the violated laws in strict conformity with the Soviet and Russian Constitutions, as well as international pacts on human rights and freedoms.

Canceling of 7 Nov Embassy Receptions Criticized

PM2609223191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Sep 91 Single Edition p 4

[V. Ovchinnikov "Rejoinder": "'Ahead of the Entire Planet' Yet Again?"]

[Text] According to certain information, the USSR Foreign Ministry has instructed Soviet embassies abroad not to hold the traditional 7 November reception this year. If that is the case, I believe that many of my compatriots—the foreign public as well—will be bewildered.

After all, 7 November is not just the anniversary of the October Revolution. It is the national holiday, fixed by international diplomatic protocol, of a state that is a cofounder of the United Nations and a permament member of the Security Council. Are we not acting precipitately, are we not succumbing too easily to the craze for repudiation and destruction, by depriving ourselves of such an established concept as a national holiday?

Certainly, any people's attitude toward events in its own history—be it the storming of the Bastille or of the Winter Palace—can change. But it is hard to imagine a French person, whatever his political beliefs, renouncing the 14 July holiday, or an American demanding that 4 July not be celebrated as Independence Day.

It is doubly wrong to abandon an existing national holiday without agreeing on the date to replace it. Is it wise to be in such haste to be "ahead of the entire planet"?

Control of Moscow KGB Transferred to RSFSR

LD2609170191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1540 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Excerpt] By decree of USSR President Gorbachev, control of the USSR State Security Committee [KGB] for Moscow and Moscow Oblast is transferred to the jurisdiction of the State Security Committee of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR].

For the Moscow militia, the leadership has been changed in the course of one day. [passage omitted]

KGB Reorganization Committee Proposals Cited

LD2609192191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The state commission considers it necessary to recommend that the USSR State Council should carry out a radical reorganisation of the USSR KGB, proceeding from the view that the Union republics are the legal successors to the KGB structures in the relevant territories. So this task can be effected, it is proposed that interrepublican commissions should be formed. Authorized representatives of the republics within these commissions are to work out, during talks, proposals for the reorganization of KGB structures, determining the volume of the powers and functions delegated to the bodies being reorganized. Questions of the social protection of the staff of the bodies are to be solved during the talks. A procedure is to be determined for financing, possessing property, and other questions. The results of the talks are to be used when drafting the clauses of a treaty on a union of sovereign states, specifically those relating to state security.

The commission goes on to propose that an interrepublican body should be set up within the joint security system of a future union of sovereign states. Moreover, the state commission proceeds from the view that the radical reorganization of the USSR KGB must remove elements of mistrust on the part of the republics, and that it will have positive political consequences and will favorably affect public opinion on this issue. No less important is the fact that implementation of the present proposals will make it possible to more quickly overcome the sentiments of uncertainty and anxious expectancy that have afflicted KGB staff, to retain qualified staff, and to create conditions for their active work for the benefit of society.

KGB Archives To Fill 'Gaps' in USSR History

PM2609130591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Sep 91 Union Edition p 3

[Report by E. Maksimova: "CPSU and KGB Archives Opening Up to the World"]

[Text] In the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers Committee for Archive Affairs on 17 September Committee Chairman R. Pikhoya had a meeting with USSR People's Deputy Yu. Afanasyev and V. Bukovskiy, the well-known defender of rights representing a number of international organizations. Questions connected with the procedure for transferring, using, and studying the CPSU Central Committee and KGB archives that have passed to the committee's jurisdiction were discussed. The chief result of the meeting was an accord on cooperation with the Soviet and international public. It was decided to supplement the commission for the transfer of KGB archives, which has already been set up, with a group of people's deputies and representatives of science and to approve the commission's status in the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium. The deadline for handing over the archives, which has been agreed with V. Bakatin and V. Ivanenko, chairmen of the State Security Committees, was determined—six months.

At the same time an international commission to study new archive information is being formed from major world specialists in USSR history. Scientists are being enlisted from the Hoover Center, the Kennan Institute, the International Council on Archives, the "Memorial" center, etc.. The joint work will result in the creation or, rather, the re-creation of a full and objective history of the Soviet state, which will, at long last, appear before the world without gaps, black holes, or blank spaces, on the basis of the colossal wealth of documents being handed over to researchers.

TASS Interviews 'Alpha Group' Commander

LD2709032391 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Members of Alpha special anti-terrorism unit which became known to the public for its refusal to raid the building of the Russian parliament in the days of the August putsch acted for the first time as guards of Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his recent trip to Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Sergey Goncharov, 43, deputy commander of Alpha Group, told TASS that the order to join in guarding Yeltsin in the Transcaucasus was issued by the president of the USSR to whom the group reports directly since August 23.

14 out of the 200 members of Alpha Group, accompanying the Russian president in his tour were to ensure together with the guards of other participants in the negotiations their complete safety.

"On the whole there were no incidents during Yeltsin's stay in Baku, Stepanakert, Yerevan", Goncharov said. At the same time he admitted that there were tense moments in Stepanakert. When Yeltsin addressed a gathering of many thousands, a crowd with women and children at its front broke the line of police. "There could be no guarantees against the presence of an extremist or a provocateur in the midst of the crowd".

"In case of an attack, five or six of Alpha men can shield the president and remain steadfast for 15-20 minutes to enable his personal guards to take him to safety", Goncharov said.

Alpha special unit was a month ago Special Group "A" of the Seventh Directorate of the USSR KGB. Its tasks included checking terrorism, release of hostages and

driving terrorists out of buildings they may seize, recapture of means of transportation seized and of Soviet institution abroad.

If the president of the USSR cannot discharge his duties for some or other reason, Alpha Group will obey orders of the Russian president.

The group's commander, 42-year-old Lieutenant-Colonel Mikhail Golovatov said that the group's functions virtually remained unchanged now that it reports directly to the Soviet president.

"We have special responsibility in view of this fact when we perform operations our slightest blunder may tarnish his reputation. At the same time I hope that the orders issued to us will be more thoroughly considered", Golovatov said. Together with other similar groups Alpha stormed the palace of Afghan President Amin in Kabul in December 1979.

Golovatov said that the tasks of Alpha Group will not be limited to guarding the president. The group is prepared to use its abilities and experience in cooperation with all other law enforcement bodies in the USSR and abroad.

Officials Deny Emigration Restrictions

LD2509191491 Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 25 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Soltys]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—About 200,000 Jews left for Israel from Azerbaijan over the past decade alone, Manaf Agayev, deputy permanent representative of Azerbaijan, told TASS here on Wednesday.

"Although these are mirthless statistics for us—because it is highly skilled specialists, scientists and cultural figures that leave the country, as a rule—we do not intend to hinder them or members of other nationalities from going abroad," Agayev said.

"A report published in the WASHINGTON POST newspaper that in Baku the local authorities 'had reinstated restrictions on obtaining exit permits' looks strange in this context," he said.

Vladimir Zorin, deputy permanent representative of Uzbekistan in Moscow, supported the attitude of his Azerbaijani counterpart.

"No restrictions on exit from the republic were introduced," he said. "So, the information published in the U.S. newspaper—which, referring to a U.S. Administration official's remarks in the Senate, said that local emigration authorities in Tashkent 'were using tighter regulations that had hampered emigration in the past'—is not true", Zorin pointed out.

The USSR Interior Ministry's visa registration office (OVIR) does not know about any restrictions on the exit of Soviet citizens either.

An OVIR spokesman told TASS that the exit procedure was simplified from July 1, this year. Previously, an invitation only from close relatives was required for a family reunion in order to leave for permanent residence abroad, whereas now it is enough for a person to receive an invitation from any relative or a permission letter from a foreign embassy, the spokesman said.

Chernobyl Cover-Up Denied by Academician

LD2509223391 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Allegations that Magate concealed their findings into the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident are a lie, academician Spartak Belyayev, deputy director of the Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, told TASS, commenting on Soviet Physicist's Vladimir Chernousenko claims.

Chernousenko told the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA newspaper last Saturday Magate had distributed a "consoling version" of the former Soviet government which played down the Chernobyl aftermath. "Senior Magate leaders are heading an international nuclear mafia and would stop short of nothing to promote nuclear energy", Chernousenko claimed.

Soviet government asked Magate to help evaluate radioactive contamination after the Chernobyl accident, Belyayev said. Magate then appointed seven international organisations. 250 highly qualified researchers from 25 countries took part in the Chernobyl project. Concrete settlements in the Ukraine, Belorussia and Russia were jointly selected for the purpose.

Belyayev acknowledged that there were certain differences in Soviet and foreign measurements of radio nuclides in the contaminated areas. Soviets spotted less strontium than foreign experts as they did not have the necessary up-to-date equipment and qualifications. But the measurements of the main pollutant—caesium—were the same, Belyayev said.

Vladimir Chernousenko's traces have been lost since his participation early this month in an international ecological conference in Mexico, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA said. There are reports, however, that he won't return to the Soviet Union after his allegations.

Local Authorities' New Powers Assessed

PM2509160991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Sep 91 Single Edition p 1

[Article by Aleksandr Nikitin: "Moscow-Bred 'Trojan Horse.' War of Laws Ends. War of Decrees Begins"]

[Text] Perhaps the image of the "Trojan horse" is the one connoisseurs of Greek mythology are most familiar with. But it is not alien either to Russians less well-informed (professors excepted, of course!) in this respect. It could be particularly evocative today, now that the war of decrees has come to replace the war of laws.

Do not think that there is no one to discuss and adopt laws any more. The reason is quite different. It is probably a step toward a new authoritarianism, the barely discernible first glimmer of a personality cult. Alas, here is one concrete sign of our, as it were, emancipated statehood—the Russian president's decree on the powers of organs of executive authority in Moscow.

What is peculiar, so to speak, about the innovation? "The organs of executive authority in administrative and municipal districts are formed by the mayor of Moscow or by his authorized representative." Almost military style. But what about collegial organs elected by the people? Will new Seaman Zheleznyaks [Bolshevik revolutionary A.G. Zheleznyakov] come and take them in hand? The decree is quite clear about this: "The head of executive power in the administrative districts is the direct successor to the rayon soviet executive committees."

In other words, soviets and their executive committees, which have taken the "Trojan foals" to their bosom, are now perishing beneath the hooves of rather ungrateful charges who have taken the bit between their teeth. The old slogan "All power to the soviets!"—which was the route to the echelons of power—is being replaced by the slogan "Long live the bueaucracy!" And that means, to put it mildly, totalitarianism. God forbid we should live to see it.

The decree also contains timid promises "if necessary" to introduce maximum prices for goods and services and some other things in the same administrative spirit. In the meantime, accounts are being seized and buildings and other property belonging to various public and economic organizations, including commercial ones, are being sealed. Instead of a unionwide war of laws, a republic and city war of decrees is breaking out. The division not only of property, but also of territories, right down to the alteration of borders, has caused fierce conflict between different authorities.

Why worry about borders! For the first time under Soviet power (or whatever it is now) even... businessmen have gone on strike. They are taking issue with the mayor's new, essentially dictatorial rights to "regulate" prices, interfere in entrepreneurs' economic activities, sell buildings and plots of land in the city at will, and raise taxes. A convention of Moscow businessmen decided to declare Moscow unfavorable territory for enterprise development. Unless, of course, the decree is revised.

But this is just one aspect of the matter, the external aspect. Obviously, the problem is much more complex, more contradictory than businessmen's displeasure. Indeed, essentially for the first time a firm, strong step has been taken toward solving a question that has been debated for some years: creating equal opportunities for market relations in the state and entrepreneurial sectors of the economy. But how?

In fact, free prices for state sector goods virtually place them on a par with commercial prices. Many cooperative workers and other business people who are flourishing because of the price differences have been making a fortune out of speculation: They have been selling generally high-quality factory products and buying valuable raw materials at low prices. The population was forced to buy just the pitiful basics in state outlets. The only ones happy with that situation are the speculators or the state trade people. I think the Russian president's decree, if developed, could put a stop to this kind of parasitical behavior. Those who are fond of an easy buck would have to fundamentally restructure themselves and not make million upon million from the shortages, but actually produce goods that benefit the people.

What is more, the introduction of free prices will again hit the people's pocket, reducing the already wretched standard of living. But the people cannot be ruined even further. And a pay raise will probably make no difference. Even a much bigger one than Pavlov's pathetic subsidy. That will cause a new spiral of hyperinflation. So the question is how to get out of the trap? By crossing the barricades?

There is no denying the fact that the Russian and Moscow governments have inherited a difficult problem. A "Trojan horse," whatever its breed, is no salvation. What is needed is an anti-inflation program, which we do not have at the moment. There are just drafts. Whom do they benefit? The third estate or the workers? The renewed Russian parliament has to answer that one.

Sometimes the authorities themselves are unable to see what the newfangled decrees mean, with their plethora of terminology based on Latin or Greek. The latest "experimental" decree is also far removed from the democratic style. Can everyone understand the point of it? Probably not. Muscovites, when asked how things were going, used to say ironically: "Just like in Poland!" Now, no doubt, they would reply, caustically: "Just like in Greece!" Or maybe just like in ancient Rome?

Solzhenitsyn Return Linked to Monarchist Revival

PM2709123791 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Sep 91 p 1

[Article by Sergey Panasenko: "Return To Ithaca"]

[Text] Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn intends to return to Russia: the sensational announcement was made on Sunday by "Vremya." According to the commentator, the main obstacle is the writer's ambiguous position, since he is still formally accused of betraying the homeland.

There is no doubt about Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's right to return to the country, after 18 years of unlawful separation from Russia. It is perfectly clear that any formal obstacles to this must be removed as soon as possible. But this event, if it takes place, will be no ordinary occasion and it deserves special mention.

The man returning to our country is not just an emigre, not just a major writer, and not just a Nobel Prize winner. He is a man who for 25 years has been a focus of USSR social and political life, if you like, a human symbol, a figure as legendary as he is contradictory. Let us now consider the possible consequences of this step for us all.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn has just as many followers and devotees as he has critics and opponents. His return is bound to cause, on the one hand, an unprecedented wave of almost religious reverence and, on the other hand, fierce criticism. His name and his ideas are bound to be at the center of the social-political struggle for a while. But what then?

I will start with the more unpalatable scenario. It will pretty soon be discovered that the "Vermont sage's" ideas, when applied to our crazy days and to our lunatic reality, do not work and will not work. What seemed just and wise from afar, what seemed to us the voice of a prophet from a distant cloud, fades away and ceases to impress at close quarters, on direct contact.

The king will turn out to be naked. His subjects will disperse and other idols will capture people's hearts. It would be a tragedy for him personally and a tragedy for us all.

But I think the other prospect seems more likely.

Just as an enormous weight dropped on the scales will scatter smaller weights on the opposite side, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, plummeting onto the barely balanced scales of our postcommunist society, will scatter the numerous Russian political leaders and upset the equilibrium for a long time. It is impossible to say where the indicator on the scales will come to rest. Not on "communism," of course. But will it stop where it says "democratic republic," or move on to "monarchy"?

Two years or so ago a British businessman, discussing the problems we had at the time, snapped at me: "How do I know what will become of you? Maybe you will have a civil war. Maybe you will make Solzhenitsyn czar..."

There is a legitimate pretender to the Russian throne, so I do not believe that Solzhenitsyn would want to try the Romanov crown for size. But I personally view with alarm the growing Orthodox-monarchist trend and I am very concerned lest the appearance of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, whose views on this subject are well known, give further impetus to this movement.

TASS Reviews 27 Sep Central Press

LD2709080391 Moscow TASS in English 0645 GMT 27 Sep 91

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS—Today's newspapers highlight reports from Georgia, Tadzhikistan and Moldavia.

In Tbilisi, the republic's OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] attacked the National Guard base in the settlement of Shavnabada near the Georgian capital last night.

Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia said he may introduce presidential rule in the republic and dissolve the republican legislature.

The Soviet military daily KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says the opposition reinforces defence lines despite a state of emergency in Tbilisi and "National Guardsmen will not lay down their arsenal".

In Tajikistan, Shodmon Yusupov, a leader of the United Union of Democratic Forces of Tajikistan, told a news conference on Thursday that the opposition will urge the population to go on "a continuous political strike if the republican leadership fails to meet the demonstrators's demand". They demand the lifting of the state of emergency, a dissolution of the pro-communist parliament and a resignation of its leader Rakhmon Nabiyev.

The Soviet youth daily KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA "says nearly each of 60 tents in a tent-camp in the central square in Dushanbe is decorated with a portrait of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA reports from Moldavia that "the situation has deteriorated in the republic after some police units were transferred to the jurisdiction of the Dniester Republic".

The Soviet trade union daily TRUD says the city of Dubossary is besieged by Moldavian OMON, which "tries to provoke disturbances to introduce a state of emergency here".

The PRAVDA newspaper carries reports from South Ossetian capital Tskhinvali.

They say the city has been heavily shelled by Georgian guerrillas from anti-aircraft guns, machine and submachine guns. This is the second such attack over the past month.

The newspaper frontpages the article "Who Will Take Gorbachev's Seat?", which tells about new owners of the Soviet Communist Party headquarters in Moscow.

It says the building will most likely be taken over by the Russian Government.

TRUD publishes excerpts from Aleksandr Yakovlev's speech at the first conference of the movement for democratic reforms in Moscow. In the article "democrats should unite," Yakovlev says "in this crucial situation, only [words indistinct] powerful and authoritative democratic movement can resist attempts of dictatorship and new bureaucracy to form a new closed administrative elite".

He says "the movement for democratic reforms meets the present day demands best of all", since it is not a new

superparty but a confederation of different forces, movements, parties and associations.

The newspaper carries reports about problems with food supplies in various Soviet regions. "Semi-blockade or blockade rations have been introduced almost everywhere. Our life becomes increasingly poor," the newspaper says.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA publishes an interview with Colonel General Yuriy Shatalin, commander of the Soviet Interior Ministry troops.

Shatalin, who refused to resign after last month's failed coup, believes his troops lived up to expectatons during the putsch, ensuring public order and protecting the Russian parliamentary building. He said the troops did not support the plotters.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries an interview with a Komsomol leader Andrey Aleynikov about the future of the country's Komsomol [All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League].

He believes the last mission of the Union "which is leaving the political arena, to start a new youth movement". It should be independent and free of ideological dogmas, Aleynikov said.

The 22nd emergency Soviet Komsomol congress opens in Moscow today.

PRAVDA offers an article about the deployment of the Soviet training brigade in Cuba in 1963. The newspaper stresses "the brigade accomplished its mission with honour" by creating a counterbalance to the U.S. expansion.

The newspaper also devotes some materials to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union.

They analyse the state of and prospects for Soviet-Egyptian relations and express hope the visit "will clear the way for the development of cooperation".

Economic

Draft of Economic Union Treaty Published

914A1247B Moscow DELOVOY MIR in Russian 14 Sep 91 pp 1-2

["Draft Treaty on the Economic Union"—DELOVOY MIR headline]

[Text]

Chapter I. Main Principles

Article 1. The Economic Union is formed by independent states on the basis of voluntary participation and the equality of rights of all its members, with a view to forming a common market and pursuing a coordinated economic policy as a necessary precondition for overcoming the crisis.

Article 2. Membership in the Economic Union entails the assumption of a full range of obligations and the acquisition of all rights envisaged by the present treaty by an independent state.

States belonging to the Economic Union proceed from their mutual economic responsibility for compliance with the present treaty and refrain from any steps which jeopardize compliance with this treaty in its entirety or with individual provisions thereof.

Article 3. Mutual relations with states which have seceded from the USSR and have not joined the Economic Union are structured on the basis of the general principles of international economic relations. Issues which need to be settled in conjunction with this are resolved in a special agreement between the Economic Union and the state in question which is signed within no more than three months from the date the present treaty is signed.

Article 4. A state belonging to the Economic Union has the right to leave it. It must notify other members of the Economic Union of its intention no later than 15 months in advance. Leaving the Economic Union is conditioned on settling relations on all obligations associated with membership in the union in keeping with a special agreement.

Article 5. States belonging to the Economic Union agree on pursuing a coordinated policy in the following areas:

entrepreneurship

movement of goods and services

monetary and banking system

finance and taxes

prices

labor market and social guarantees

customs regulations and tariffs

foreign-economic relations and foreign-exchange policy

state scientific-technical, investment, ecological, humanitarian, and other programs

standardization, patents, metrology, statistics, and accounting

legal regulation of economic operations.

Article 6. States belonging to the Economic Union create organs endowed with appropriate powers with a view to implementing a coordinated economic policy and joint measures aimed at curing the economy and overcoming the crisis.

Article 7. The present treaty is signed for a term of five years.

States belonging to the Economic Union resolve the issue of extending or amending the present treaty, or signing a new treaty no later than 12 months before the expiration of the above term.

Independent states which are former or current subjects of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, regardless of their current status,

confirming their right to independently resolve all issues of socioeconomic development,

expressing the will of their people for political and economic sovereignty codified in acts adopted by the supreme legislative organs of their states,

desiring to establish normal relations between peoples and protect the economic interests of citizens,

taking into account the crisis of the USSR and the need to radically revise the entire set of relations between states which belonged to it,

believing that resolving political, defense, property, and humanitarian issues between states takes time,

proceeding, at the same time, from the fact that urgent coordinated actions by all states capable of arresting and subsequently overcoming the crisis are necessary in the environment of an economic crisis,

striving for radical economic transformations and taking into account the commonality of issues facing the states in connection with a transition to a market economy and joining the world economy,

and being aware of the advantages of economic integration and a common economic space and the feasibility of preserving economic, commercial, scientific-technical, and other relations, sign the present "Treaty of Economic Union."

Chapter II. Entrepreneurship

Article 8. States belonging to the Economic Union acknowledge that private property and free enterprise constitute the basis for economic growth. They create conditions which facilitate business activity and legislatively restrict the interference of the state in the economic operations of enterprises.

Article 9. A state belonging to the Economic Union undertakes to ensure in its territory the same legal regimen for economic operations by individuals and juridical persons of both its own state and all other states belonging to the Economic Union, including the issues taxation, compliance with ecological requirements, and access to natural, labor, material, financial, and information resources.

Article 10. States belonging to the Economic Union undertake to implement a coordinated anti-monopoly policy and facilitate the development of competition within the framework of their united market.

Chapter III. Movement of Goods and Services

Article 11. The movement of goods and services in the territory of the states belonging to the Economic Union is effected freely, on a duty-free basis.

Article 12. Striving to form a united market, states belonging to the Economic Union acknowledge that restrictions on the movement of goods and services are impermissible, and undertake to eliminate them within an agreed-upon period of time.

During the aforementioned period, some previously introduced restrictions on the movement of goods between the states may be maintained on the basis of coordinated merchandise lists, and should not apply to products for production and technical uses delivered within the framework of established production-sharing relations.

Article 13. With a view to ensuring the normal operation of the economy during the period of the emergence of market relations, states belonging to the Economic Union sign bilateral and multilateral agreements, guaranteeing the delivery of the most significant types of goods and services, with regard to which coordinated prices are used. The states belonging to the Economic Union or, on their instructions, the proper organs of the Economic Union, may place state requisitions in order to effect deliveries under these agreements, as well as deliveries for common needs and interstate consumers.

States belonging to the Economic Union undertake to implement a coordinated policy aimed at reducing the volume of state requisitions and consistently expanding the sphere of free-market turnover.

Chapter IV. The Monetary and Banking System

Article 14. States belonging to the Economic Union acknowledge that coordinated actions in the sphere of monetary and credit policy are of primary significance in overcoming the crisis and controlling inflation.

Article 15. States belonging to the Economic Union are aware of the advantages of preserving the ruble as the common currency in a joint monetary system, and agree to make efforts to reinforce the ruble in 1991 and 1992. The introduction of national currencies by the states belonging to the Economic Union is allowed, but only on terms that rule out the possibility of damage to the monetary system of the Economic Union. These terms are set forth in a special agreement between a given state and the Economic Union.

Article 16. A Banking Union, consisting of the central banks of the states belonging to the Economic Union and operating on the principles of a reserve system, is established by the states belonging to the Economic Union in order to work out and implement effective monetary and

credit policies which ensure restricting the growth of prices and maintaining the exchange rate of the ruble.

Article 17. The legal status and procedures for forming the management organs of the Banking Union are set forth in a special agreement.

The operation of the Banking Union is regulated by its charter confirmed by the supreme organs of legislative power of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Until the charter of the Banking Union is adopted, the operation of the banking system is managed on a temporary basis by the board of the USSR State Bank, to whose composition representatives of the central banks of the states belonging to the Economic Union are added.

Article 18. The following functions are entrusted to the Banking Union:

to set forth a common approach to the implementation of a monetary and credit policy and to set quantitative parameters (limits) for the operation of the central banks belonging to the Banking Union;

to set interest rates on loans provided by the central banks belonging to the Banking Union to commercial banks;

to set forth reserve requirements for commercial banks;

to organize interbank settlements;

to regulate the exchange rate of the ruble with regard to other currencies;

to manage the gold stocks and the hard-currency reserve of the Economic Union;

to organize cash circulation, including the sales of bills and coins;

to regulate general rules for the operation of commercial banks.

The Banking Union shall set forth quotas for participation by the central banks of the states belonging to the Economic Union in extending credit to banking systems in 1992.

Directives of the management organs of the Banking Union are binding for all banks belonging to the Banking Union.

Chapter V. Finance and Taxes

Article 19. States belonging to the Economic Union pursue a coordinated budgetary and tax policy which means:

coordinated reductions in the deficits of consolidated state budgets, taking into account off-budget funds, and the establishment of limits to the growth of the internal debt of the states belonging to the Economic Union. In the event the established limits are exceeded by one or several states belonging to the Economic Union, the excessive amount is processed as a debt obligation to other members, in keeping with agreed-upon rules;

unification of tax systems with a simultaneous shift toward indirect taxes, the intake of which increases as prices grow.

Article 20. States belonging to the Economic Union sign an agreement on the division and legal restructuring [pereoformleniye] of the USSR state internal debt and procedures for its servicing in the future. A segment of the debt may be made a joint responsibility of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

The states belonging to the Economic Union confirm the continuity of commitments made on behalf of the USSR to the owners of deposits in the USSR Savings Bank, USSR state securities, certificates of the USSR State Bank, and insurance policies (certificates) of the USSR Gosstrakh [Main Directorate of State Insurance].

Article 21. The budget of the Economic Union is accumulated in order to finance joint expenditures of states belonging to the Economic Union.

Within the framework of the budget of the Economic Union (variant: outside of it), special funds are created:

for servicing the segment of the USSR state internal debt for which the states belonging to the Economic Union are jointly and severally liable;

for servicing the state foreign debt of the USSR and the foreign indebtedness of the Economic Union;

for emergencies and the elimination of the consequences of natural disasters;

for environmental protection measures;

a financial reserve.

The revenues of the budget of the Economic Union are accumulated from the contributions of its members established as a fixed percentage of the produced national income in current prices or another agreed-upon indicator. The extent and procedures for the transfer of funds are determined by annual agreements of the members of the Economic Union.

The budget of the Economic Union may not run a deficit.

Article 22. States belonging to the Economic Union may set up off-budget funds for financing special- purpose programs. The off-budget funds of the Economic Union may not run a deficit.

Article 23. States belonging to the Economic Union acknowledge the need to implement special-purpose programs for speeding up the development of individual regions. To this end they shall create the Regional Development Fund by transferring to it 1.5 percent of

the national income in current prices which is generated in their territories. The operation of the fund in question is regulated by its charter.

Article 24. With a view to ensuring the continuity of the expenditures of the Union budget, the states belonging to the Economic Union shall sign, before 31 December 1991, an agreement on redistributing the revenues and expenditures of the USSR Union budget, so that all expenditures after 1 January 1992 will be made within the framework of state and interstate budgetary systems.

Article 25. States belonging to the Economic Union agree that the movement of monetary funds and other financial resources and the issuance and circulation of securities will be regulated within the framework of the Economic Union in keeping with a special agreement, proceeding from the need to ensure the free movement of capital.

Chapter VI. Price Policy

Article 26. States belonging to the Economic Union implement a coordinated policy for a transition to unrestricted price setting.

Article 27. During a period of transition, the states belonging to the Economic Union will:

establish coordinated levels of prices for a limited list of goods and services and set forth procedures for its periodic revision;

coordinate a retail price policy, including prices for imported goods;

effect coordinated actions to regulate prices for products manufactured by monopoly producers.

Chapter VII. The Labor Market and Social Guarantees

Article 28. States belonging to the Economic Union strive to implement the principle of the free movement of labor in the territory of the states belonging to the Economic Union, and will consistently ensure conditions for this, including the development of a housing market.

Article 29. States belonging to the Economic Union consider discrimination of citizens on ethnic grounds or along other lines impermissible in the matter of providing jobs, labor remunerations, and ensuring other working conditions, as well as extending social guarantees.

The members of the Economic Union mutually recognize documents which confirm the degree of education and skills of employees who have received them in other states belonging to the Economic Union, and do not require their additional confirmation in the course of hiring or admission for studies, unless this is a mandatory condition for all.

Article 30. States belonging to the Economic Union shall sign a special agreement on mutual obligations in the area of retirement benefit payments to the citizens of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Chapter VIII. Foreign Economic Relations and a Foreign Exchange Policy

Article 31. States belonging to the Economic Union agree to coordinate foreign economic operations and a foreign-exchange policy with a view to all members of the Economic Union and economic entities operating in their territories being drawn into world economic relations as soon as possible.

Article 32. The Economic Union as the legal successor for all foreign-economic obligations of the USSR guarantees compliance with them. Each state belonging to the Economic Union confirms its participation in meeting these obligations jointly when it joins the Union.

The members of the Economic Union consider it necessary to sign a special agreement to determine the share of the total amount of the foreign debt of the USSR, and of the total amount of debts by other countries to the USSR, attributable to each of the subjects of the previous Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as of the date of signing of the present treaty.

The above shares are used in settlements to clear debts with states which do not wish to join in the treaty or leave the Economic Union. [sentence as published] These states engage in settlements with the Economic Union until the amount of debt attributable to them is cleared in its entirety.

In the event of a state not wishing to join in the treaty or leaving the Economic Union comes to an agreement with its creditors about the restructuring [pereoformleniye] of the segment of the common foreign debt attributable to it, it is permissible for this state to clear the indicated segment of the debt on its own.

Article 33. The Economic Union shall receive new foreign loans on the basis of coordinated decisions by all states belonging to the Union.

A state belonging to the Economic Union is entitled to obtain foreign loans on its own, with all the attendant obligations to service and repay the above loans.

The Economic Union or its individual member states provide loans or other economic aid to foreign countries through the same procedures.

Article 34. States belonging to the Economic Union agree that attaining the internal convertibility of the ruble is the most immediate economic objective of the Union. They undertake to carry out necessary preparatory measures on the basis of a coordinated program for making a transition to the internal convertibility of the ruble.

Article 35. States belonging to the Economic Union acknowledge the need to establish unified procedures for

the accumulation of foreign exchange proceeds for servicing the foreign debt, as well as for effecting centralized imports of goods to meet the coordinated volume of the vital needs of all members of the Union until such time as a transition to the internal convertibility of the ruble is made.

Article 36. States belonging to the Economic Union regulate foreign economic operations, quotas and licenses for foreign economic transactions independently within the limits of coordinated quotas established by the organs of the Economic Union.

Article 37. States belonging to the Economic Union agree to preserve a common customs space of the Economic Union, and pursue a coordinated customs policy to this end.

Issues associated with procedures for setting and collecting customs duties and export and import taxes for the appropriate budgets are resolved in a special agreement.

Article 38. States belonging to the Economic Union agree to a joint membership in the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and other international economic organizations, and confirm the legal effect of appropriate applications on behalf of the USSR.

Article 39. States belonging to the Economic Union coordinate their actions in the field of foreign investment and technical, consultative, and other types of aid by foreign states and international organizations.

Chapter IX. Legal Regulation of Economic Operations

Article 40. Legal acts of states belonging to the Economic Union are supreme in these states. Individuals and juridical persons engaging in economic operations on the territory of these states are under their jurisdiction.

Article 41. States belonging to the Economic Union agree that their economic legislation should be made similar with a view to creating the most favorable and equal conditions for entrepreneurship and free trade in the entire space of the Economic Union. They undertake to ensure that their legislation complies with the norms of international law and the acts of the Economic Union.

Article 42. If legislative acts of a state belonging to the Economic Union are not brought into compliance with the present treaty and other acts of the Economic Union, the priority of the aforementioned acts of the Economic Union adopted, in keeping with its powers, is recognized in the course of resolving economic and other issues in dispute.

Article 43.[end bold] Basic civil legislation and other previously adopted legislative acts of the USSR apply, inasmuch as they do not run counter to the present treaty, for the duration of a period needed to regulate all aspects of economic life through the legislation of the states belonging to the Economic Union, as well as the acts of the organs of this Union.

Chapter X. Organs of the Economic Union

Article 44. The following are organs of the Economic Union:

Interstate [Mezhgosudarstvennyy] Economic Committee

Banking Union

Economic Union Arbitration Service.

Decisions of the above organs made within the framework of their powers, set forth by a coordinated decision of the states belonging to the Economic Union, are binding for the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Article 45. A Conference of the Heads of Government of States Belonging to the Economic Union operates to discuss key problems in implementing a coordinated economic policy and to develop recommendations on its implementation.

The Conference of the Heads of Government of States Belonging to the Economic Union is entitled to veto, on the basis of a consensus, decisions of the Interstate Economic Committee and its chairman, as well as raise the issue of replacing the chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee before the parliaments of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Article 46. The chairman manages the work of the Interstate Economic Committee.

The candidacy of the chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee is proposed by the Conference of the Heads of Governments of States Belonging to the Economic Union and is confirmed by the supreme organs of legislative power of all states belonging to the Economic Union. The chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee reports to the supreme legislative organs of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Article 47. The Interstate Economic Committee is an executive and administrative organ of the Economic Union. It coordinates the implementation of the economic policy of the states belonging to the Economic Union, and makes decisions on the most significant issues concerning the formation of a common market space, finance, trade, price policy, and other issues. The Interstate Economic Committee monitors the implementation of the provisions of the present treaty, additional agreements and normative acts. The Interstate Economic Committee sets policy with regard to states which do not belong to the Economic Union, as well as member states of the Union which violate the present treaty.

Article 48. Appropriate commissions are created within the composition of the Interstate Economic Committee.

Heads of the commissions are appointed by the chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee and are members of this committee.

An economic report of the Interstate Economic Committee is published annually.

Article 49. The Foreign Exchange Committee, the Customs Committee, the Budget Directorate, and the Statistical Directorate are set up under the Interstate Economic Committee.

Other organs may also be created under the Interstate Economic Committee with the consent of the Conference of Heads of Government of the States Belonging to the Economic Union.

Procedures for setting up these organs, reorganizing and abolishing those already created, their powers, including the right to sign international treaties, and procedures for appointing and removing their heads are established by the Interstate Economic Committee.

If so empowered by the Interstate Economic Committee, the organs of the Economic Union may represent it in mutual relations with third countries, their associations, and international organizations.

Article 50. The Interstate Economic Committee operates in close contact with the plenipotentiary representatives (with the rank of ambassadors) of states belonging to the Economic Union.

Regular conferences of the ministers of the states belonging to the Economic Union are held in order to resolve the issues of cooperation and the development of a joint policy in specific areas.

Article 51. The Arbitration Service of the Economic Union is formed for resolving issues in dispute, with a view to ensuring the uniform application of the present treaty throughout the territory of the Economic Union.

Article 52. Unified patent and metrology services, uniform time, measures, and weights services, and standardization and certification services are set up within the framework of the Economic Union.

Article 53. States belonging to the Economic Union agree to transform, on a coordinated basis, the sectoral management organs of the USSR into interstate corporations, other transnational associations, and enterprises, with the states belonging to the Economic Union holding shares.

Chapter XI. Additional Agreements

Article 54. Economic relations between states belonging to the Economic Union are regulated on the basis of the present treaty and additional accompanying agreements.

Article 55. The following additional agreements are signed within a period of not more than three months from the date the present treaty is signed for the entire term of validity of the latter:

On the status and powers of the Economic Union organs

On the establishment of the Banking Union, including its charter

On creating the Regional Development Fund, including its charter

On creating off-budget funds of the Economic Union and regulations of them

On securities

On regulating the right to property in the Economic Union

On the settlement of mutual obligations by states in the process of leaving the Economic Union

On procedures and conditions for the introduction of national currencies by countries belonging to the Economic Union

On procedures for switching to general principles for international economic relations with states which previously belonged to the USSR but do not belong to the Economic Union

On an antimonopoly policy within the framework of the united market of states belonging to the Economic Union

On the division and legal restructuring [pereoformleniye] of the state internal debt of the USSR and procedures for servicing it in the future

On mutual obligations in the sphere of retirement benefit payments

On principles and arrangements for servicing the foreign debt of the Economic Union

On the unification of the legislation of states belonging to the Economic Union which regulates economic operations

On procedures for settling property and other disputes.

Article 56. The following additional agreements are signed for one year or another agreed-upon period:

On prices and volumes of the delivery of goods under mutual (interstate) treaties and for common needs

On the budget of the Economic Union

On tax policy

On customs policy and customs tariffs

On the maximum size of the deficits of consolidated budgets of the states belonging to the Economic Union

On setting limits for the increment of the internal debt of the states belonging to the Economic Union.

Chapter XII. Associate Membership in the Economic Union

Article 57. A state which belonged to the USSR and assumes only some of the obligations set forth in the present treaty may, with the consent of all members of the Economic Union, be granted the status of associate member of the Economic Union.

Article 58. A state must assume the obligations following from articles 9, 12, 14, 15, 19, 29, 30, 32, and 37 of the present treaty in order to join the Economic Union as an associate member.

Article 59. Mutual relations between the Economic Union and an associate member in each specific case are regulated by a special agreement which provides, in particular, for solving the issues of customs arrangements, interstate deliveries and prices, and participation in forming the budget and off-budget funds of the Economic Union.

Chapter XIII. Final Provisions

Article 60. As a rule, the states belonging to the Economic Union advocate resolving issues associated with violations of the present treaty through negotiations.

Disciplinary measures provided for in agreements, up to expulsion from the Economic Union, may be used against states belonging to the Economic Union which allow grave violations of their obligations following from the treaty or additional agreements on specific areas.

Article 61. The treaty is subject to ratification by the states belonging to the Economic Union, in keeping with their constitutions, and takes effect one month after instruments of ratification are presented to the depository state. Additional agreements are not subject to ratification, and take effect from the moment they are signed.

The draft was prepared by a working group composed of G.A. Yavlinskiy (leader), S.V. Aleksashenko, M.M. Zadornov, V.N. Kushchenko, V.M. Mashchits, A.Yu. Mikhaylov, V.A. Orlov, M.F. Panyakin, V.A. Pokrovskiy, Yu.V. Uvarov, and Ye.G. Yasin.

Materials of the USSR Union of Science and Industry, the Institute of Economic Policy, the Center for Economic and Political Research, the Fund for Economic and Social Reforms, and a conference of the ministers of economics and forecasting were used in preparing the draft, as well as the program "Transition to a Market Economy (500 Days)."

Yavlinskiy Views Treaty

914A1247A Moscow DELOVOY MIR in Russian 14 Sep 91 p 1

[Article by G. Yavlinskiy: "On the Draft Treaty on Economic Union"]

[Text] A group of specialists has prepared a draft "Treaty on Economic Union" on the initiative of the Committee for Operational Management of the USSR National Economy.

The main objective of the Economic Union is to consolidate the efforts of sovereign states with a view to forming a common market and pursuing a coordinated economic policy as a necessary condition for overcoming the crisis. The draft in question provides that joining the Economic Union is not predicated on signing the Treaty on the Union of Sovereign States.

The draft contains solutions in principle to key problems associated with regulating economic relations between states belonging to the economic union, as well as states that do not wish to join it. Naturally, the treaty cannot resolve the entire set of issues which determine new economic relations between states. It is planned to sign a package of additional agreements on specific spheres on the basis of the treaty.

The draft "Treaty on Economic Union" is prepared as a foundation for negotiations between authorized representatives of the states, in the course of which it will be necessary to develop coordinated solutions to all key economic questions.

If the submitted draft is approved by the State Council in the main, we may, proceeding from the position of this treaty, immediately begin negotiations with foreign countries and international organizations concerning support from them which could facilitate economic stabilization and accelerate transformations of the economic system in all states belonging to the Economic Union.

Simultaneously with preparing the treaty for signing, it is necessary to immediately establish working groups of specialists with republic representation in order to develop specific agreements complementing the treaty.

Given this organization of work, it is objectively possible to complete the development of a package of documents concerning the creation of the economic union within three or four months.

Republic Leaders Cited on Economic Union

PM2609133791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Sep 91 Union Edition pp 1-2

[Roundup of correspondent reports: "Union of Sovereign States—Which Is To Be Considered the Key Word?"; first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] As is known, the State Council has "adopted as a basis" the draft Treaty of Economic Union prepared by G. Yavlinskiy's group. The republics are pondering the matter. As follows from IZVESTIYA correspondents' reports, in the opinion of the leaders of the majority of the republics, it is realistic to expect the economic union to be concluded soon. All the more so as different

versions of union membership are possible: as a full member of the community, as an associate member, or with observer status. However, different positions are also being expressed. Whatever strategy a particular republic chooses, the chief thing is that it will be a voluntary union of sovereign states.

The Ukraine [S. Tsikora]

"We understand the interrepublic economic union as a unified economic space, not as a single market. A market will be created on the basis of ties among republics, among states."

This was how Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman L. Kravchuk commented in the republic parliament on the question examined in the State Council in Moscow.

Without economic ties within the framework of the economic space in which we were living it is impossible to develop the Ukraine's economy in the immediate future, L. Kravchuk believes. An economic union among the republics is a real way out of the state of crisis today. And this is so for all the states that were living in this economic space.

But the Ukraine's orientations are not confined to the framework of the interrepublic economic union. The republic is making an appropriate correction to its economic policy in order to enter into other unions—European ones, for example. It will be possible to realize this when the Ukraine finally decides on its own currency and on certain other problems.

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet has the final say in approving all these documents. Things will be the way it says. But, as L. Kravchuk emphasizes, the interrepublic economic union and its concept are in no way a political union—this is a point of principle, and we adhere to it.

Kazakhstan [V. Ardayev]

"Our republic's position is well known," Uzakbay Karamanov, prime minister of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, said. "It is necessary to sign the Treaty of Economic Union without delay, in the very near future. Because no republic taken separately can resolve its economic problems on its own. They must be resolved in a union. It is not important how many republics express a desire. But within the bounds of the treaty that will be signed we must have an economic space where all questions connected with pricing policy, the free flow of commodity and material resources, customs duties, borders, etc. will be eliminated.

"We believe that the group under G. Yavlinskiy's leadership has prepared in a short time quite a good document which can be taken as the basis of the future Treaty of Economic Union. At the same time I believe that, evidently owing to the lack of time, this document could not cover all areas in full, because we have individual comments. These are questions of the structure of the banking system and foreign economic ties, but what is most important, of course, is the structure and functions of the interregional economic committee. It must without fail be headed by a council, which would include all the prime ministers of the union republics. And only then must the working organ itself appear—the interrepublic economic committee. The USSR president could appoint this committee's chairman and vice chairman in a decree by agreement with the USSR Supreme Soviet.

"The thought is sometimes aired that a working committee must be formed from specialists of central organs and that republics must be involved at the level of ambassadors. I believe that representatives of the union republics must participate in the working organs of the interrepublic economic committee on a permanent basis. The top organ in the banking system must be an oversight council, to which all working organs are subordinate. The chairmen of national banks must participate in the work of the Union bank's collegium. That is, what is needed is the optimum combination of central management with the equal participation in it of all the republics which are subjects of the economic union.

"And, I repeat, the chief thing is the speediest signing of the economic union treaty. If we delay over this, the document could lose its meaning and not have the expected effect. The chief task now is to ensure that the basis of the treaty, worked out with due regard for all the union republics' comments and suggestions, emerges within a week or, at most, eight days. The center must be a coordinating organ acting in the name, on behalf, and in the interests of all the republics. Only in this way will we be able to get into the orbit of fruitful foreign economic activity, because foreign partners are prepared to deal only with a unified organ of economic management and not with each republic separately."

Uzbekistan [A. Orlov]

"In our view, G. Yavlinskiy's program needs additional work done on it," B. Bugrov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who has just returned from Moscow, where he represented the republic at the State Council session, said. "The country must be extricated from the crisis through joint efforts.

"The attitude in Uzbekistan to the draft Treaty of Economic Union is, on the whole, positive, but we have submitted dozens of comments and amendments—a package of documents concerning individual questions.

"I will point out that all the decisions on the draft treaty are of an interim nature. After conveying proposals to the working group, on which we have our representative, we will keep track of their realization and only then make the final decision. I am convinced that the program must be adopted and fulfilled—it is our common salvation, but it is necessary to take into account and coordinate the interests of all the participants in the future union. Only then will it start working efficiently."

Belorussia [N. Matukovskiy]

"I was gladdened by the State Council session and the discussion there of the economic union," Belorussian Supreme Soviet Chairman S. Shushkevich declared. "The chief thing now, in my view, is whether people will believe us. Our situation is difficult, and a great deal in the economy has been messed up.

"Unpopular measures will have to be taken. We have no other way out, and we must all understand this. There is no denying that many people have simply forgotten how to work well and remember only their rights, having totally forgotten about their obligations.

"Of course, we must emerge together from the impasse into which 'developed socialism' led us, by helping one another actively. The problem of strengthening the discipline of mutual pledges and treaties and unconditionally fulfilling every point in treaties is more acute than ever now. Whereas it used to be possible to 'justify' one's own laxity by referring to a treaty imposed from above, from the center, this subterfuge has now disappeared: Treaties are concluded directly. A person's attitude to a treaty and to its fulfillment will at once shed light on who is who."

Kyrgyzstan [A. Ryabushkin]

President A. Akayev of Kyrgyzstan remains, as before, a supporter of the alternative draft economic agreement proposed by Academician S. Shatalin. He expressed his position on this question to the State Council. Unfortunately, not all the session participants supported this study, which, in A. Akayev's view, is ideally suited to the situation today and could ultimately be the basis of a treaty on an economic community of sovereign republics, the president believes.

As for G. Yavlinskiy's draft economic union, in the opinion of Askar Akayevich it is not designed to create new economic structures but is founded more on centralized, directive-based regulation. It is one more attempt to bind the old, disintegrating tissues of the former Union with new threads. The draft contains many short-term, current measures, which should be, rather, in a package of agreements (on credits and currency) but not in a treaty.

Of course, all this can be added to and corrected. This is not the crux of the matter. It is necessary to strive right now for a treaty on an economic community of independent states of Asia and Europe. It could be constructed as a multistory building, in which the Baltic states, for example, will only go as far as economic cooperation, while others will go further and conclude a military-defensive agreement and will develop other ties.

The president voiced concern that Kyrgyzstan might not sign the draft treaty of economic union approved by the State Council. He intends to express his views on this at the republic Supreme Soviet session that will take place this Saturday.

Tatarstan, Foreign Oil Firm Form Joint Enterprise

PM2509162791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Sep 91 Union Edition p 5

[Report by Yu. Kosinskiy under the "IZVESTIYA Correspondents on World Events" rubric: "Tatarstan Goes Out Into World Market. Equal Profit"]

[Text] Geneva—A wide-ranging agreement has been signed in the Swiss city of Nyon between the Tatar Oil Industry Administration and the international oil company Panoco Holdings AG, which specializes in oil prospecting, extraction, and sale on the world market.

The agreement envisages the setting up of the "Golubaya Kama" joint enterprise, with plans to drill 2,000 oil wells in Tataria over a 10-year period with a total production volume of up to 125,000 barrels of crude a day. The total financial outlay on these objectives is around $600 million. Describing this project, Panoco Director Vittorio di Guevara Fabbri called it "one of the first agreements ever to be concluded on such a scale between the USSR and Europe."

Under the agreement signed Panoco will undertake to hand over new Western drilling and oil extraction technology to its partners, while utilizing the republic's existing structures and work force. The "Golubaya Kama" project envisages not only the development of oil extraction but also local refining, with simultaneous prospecting for and future exploitation of new oilfields in this region. Panoco also intends to increase and expand transportation networks, modernize infrastructure, and assist in improving the local population's social conditions.

According to Panoco's director the project will be financed by the company's European and U.S. joint-stock companies. Answering journalists' questions at a news conference in Nyon about distribution of the profits (they will be divided equally between the partners) obtained by the Soviet side in the process of the "Golubaya Kama" project's implementation, "Tatneft" Deputy General Director Shafagat F. Takhautdinov noted that they will be shared between the Republic of Tatarstan, the "Tatneft" association, and also the local authorities in the areas where the joint enterprise operates.

Power Station Faces Winter Coal Supply Problem

PM2609132991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Correspondent G. Klimov reports from Dnepropetrovsk; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers has instructed enterprises and organization to cut electricity consumption by 15 percent between September and the end of the year.

[Klimov] Normally at this time of year the main problem at Pridneprovskaya GRES [state regional electric power station] was to ensure the unloading of coal trains without delay. Substantial stocks of coal were laid in for the winter.

Now take a look at this. Apart from this heap of coal which is the state reserve, that is, the reserve which must not be touched for the moment, the solid fuel depot is almost empty.

[G.I. Fesak, chief engineer] Our stocks of coal are sufficient for three to four days.

That is our current stock of solid fuel. Deliveries of coal from Donbass mines are covering only 50 percent of our requirement.

So what are we doing at present to find a way out of this situation? We are sending people to the Donbass to conclude direct contracts with specific mines.

[Klimov] Even these direct ties with mines have not yet yielded the desired results. But they simply must stabilize the fuel situation. And the sooner the better; after all, the winter is almost upon us. Among other things, the heat supplies to the Dnepropetrovsk Left Bank depend on the operation of the GRES.

According to the long-term weather forecast average daily temperatures during the coming winter will be several degrees below the long-term norm. The requirement for electricity will rise by 30 percent against the summer. The cost of a kilowatt-hour of electricity will vary with the time of day. During the morning peak hours it will be double the price of electricity at night.

Karaganda Tin-Plate Plant Rebuilt in Record Time

PM2609132591 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Correspondent G. Sytykh reports from Karaganda; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] At the beginning of May the Karaganda Metallurgical Combine tin-plate shop burned down almost completely. Our correspondent reports that the main reconstruction work has been completed.

[Sytykh] This is the biggest tin-plate shop in the country. It produces more than 50 percent of the country's tin plate for food canneries. The accident confronted us with the prospect of a hungry winter.

Now, looking at these operational production lines, it is difficult to believe that only just over three months ago there was nothing but ruins here. Experts claimed that the shop would not be back in service until the end of 1992 at the earliest.

[A. Svichinskiy, general director of the Karaganda Metallurgical Combine] Everyone was completely aware that, unless we put this shop back into service within the shortest possible time, the combine would be on the brink of bankruptcy. So the combine's entire collective worked flat out. And, of course, we had a lot of help from construction and installation workers, the republic, the oblast, and the center. Metal workers from all over the country, dozens of plants, came to our assistance supplying rolled metal for girders and metal structures.

[Sytykh] People's personal interest in this matter has helped to achieve what seemed impossible. And so I hasten to assure consumers: There will be no disruption of deliveries by Karaganda metal workers.

Moscow, Other Cities Face Shortage of Sugar

LD2609224291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0600 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] The capital is currently in the grip of sugar fever. Crowds of people fueled by rumors of imminent price increases for this far from exotic product are laying siege day and night to the bread and groceries departments of food shops in the hope of receiving their legal entitlement of one and one-half kilograms. The situation in other cities and villages in Russia is no better. Residents of the Duminichi rayon of Kaluga Oblast, for example, received just 500 grams of sugar each for the three summer months. According to (Titov), head of the main department for the development of the food industry at the USSR Ministry for Agriculture and Food, problems with sugar have arisen because refinery workers over the first eight months of this year have seen a shortfall of 1,200,000 tonnes in deliveries of raw sugar that should have come from Cuba. We usually finish refining our home-grown raw crop in January to February, and from April to August ought to fall back on imported raw sugar. But a vacuum has appeared, and there has been nothing to fill it. In order to get out of the situation, we have had to urgently buy 700,000 tonnes of sugar. The trade network is now beginning to receive sugar from this year's harvest.

Shoppers Back Private Trade, Complain of Prices

PM2609143191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Sep 91

[Correspondents A. Lutskoy and V. Krasnoyarskiy report; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Lutskoy] Everything is changing nowadays—rulers, parties. One thing remains unchanged—people want to eat and they need food. DATA has announced the results of a sociological poll during which it emerged that 91 percent of Russians buy food in ordinary stores which are currently virtually empty, while only 41 percent can afford the goods in the market.

How much do you think a person should get a month to buy food from the markets?

[First unidentified woman] A lot.

[Lutskoy] How much?

[First unidentified woman] Everything is expensive there. I don't know, around 1,000 rubles [R].

[Second unidentified woman] What will you get at the market for R1,000? You need more.

[First unidentified man] You need at least R3,500. That's the smallest amount.

[Lutskoy] Do you all get roughly R3,000?

[Third unidentified woman] We don't eat these things every day.

[Lutskoy] What has to be done so that there's as much food in the stores as in the markets?

[Fourth unidentified woman] Sell the stores to private traders—the sooner the better.

[Third unidentified woman] Follow the experience of other countries that overproduce foodstuffs.

[Fifth unidentified woman] Britain and the United States will help.

[Second unidentified man] No one is going to help us. The West won't give us any aid. Everyone has to work, we have to work.

[Third unidentified man] We've finally got to stop talking about it and start taking some action. There must really be some kind of competition. These two systems need to develop.

[Lutskoy] What two systems?

[Third unidentified man] The private and the state systems. They could compete with one another and, evidently, improve the situation.

[Fourth unidentified man] Stores should be handed over to private owners.

[Sixth unidentified woman] It's more profitable for private traders to sell everything and not stash things away.

[Fifth unidentified man] Private traders would have an interest in keeping their customers and might even give out free gifts to entice people to come and buy, as happened before.

[Seventh unidentified woman] Owners are interested in how best to sell their produce. In order to keep their customers they would reach better agreements and would meet contracts. I hope that my daughter will live in a better society.

Agricultural

September Grain Procurement Situation Reported

914A1242A Moscow DELOVOY MIR in Russian No 204, 12 Sep 91 p 2

[Article by A. Melnikov: "Six Weeks Remain..."]

[Text] **On 2 September there was negligible improvement in the situation with state purchases of grain. In terms of the tax in kind and the state order, 16.2 million tons were purchased by this date, which is almost 11 million tons less than last year. In all, 796,400 tons or one-quarter less than last week had been handed in. The plan for the tax in kind is 43.3 percent (up 1.4 percent) fulfilled, and for the state order—24.5 percent (up 2.6 percent).**

The Tax in Kind

Bryansk Oblast, which long ago exceeded the plan (by 9.4 percent), continued to hand over grain.

A significant increase in deliveries was noted in Kaliningrad Oblast (up 19.3 percent). Deliveries of grain were begun in Omsk Oblast (12,500 tons), the Khakassk ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] (400 tons), and Krasnoyarsk Kray (46,500 tons). Thus far grain from Tver, Astrakhan, Kurgan, Chelyabinsk, Tomsk, and Chita Oblasts and the Buryat and Tuva ASSR's has not made it to sale.

Among the economic regions, the leaders continue to be the Northern-Caucasus (76.5 percent) and the Central regions (74.9 percent) while Western Siberia (up 4.4 percent, fulfillment down 9 percent) and Eastern Siberia (up 4.1 percent, fulfillment down 4.2 percent) have increased their pace somewhat, but they are still at the very end of the list.

The State Order

The leaders are the same as before: Stavropol Kray, the Kalmyk ASSR, and Kirov Oblast, which over the last week delivered an additional 14,500 tons and "raised the ceiling" to 125.2 percent. Joining the leaders were Orlov Oblast, which overfulfilled the state plan by 5 percent, and the Chechen-Ingush ASSR—by 2.5 percent. There was a large spurt in Moscow Oblast: Over the week the percentage of fulfillment of the plan increased from 48.5 to 68.7. Even though they do not have plan-related tasks, Pskov, Tver, Smolensk, Sverdlovsk, and Kemerovo Oblasts and Khabarovsk Kray continue deliveries. Omsk Oblast and Krasnoyarsk Kray finally began to unload grain, although the 1,900 tons handed over comprise a quite insignificant quantity of the total volume. But we hope that this is only be beginning. Nothing has been "heard" yet from the Kabardino-Balkar SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], the Khakassk ASSR, and Kurgan and Chelyabinsk Oblasts.

As before, first and second places are occupied by the Central (73.1 percent) and Northern-Caucasus (72 percent) regions, Eastern Siberia, as before, is at zero, and Western Siberia is at 0.9 percent of fulfillment.

Our Commentary

On the subject of the difficult situation which exists in Russia with state purchases of grain, there was a meeting chaired by Ivan Silayev on 5 September in Russia's "White House," at which Leonid Cheshinskiy, minister of state purchases, gave a report.

In order to uninterruptedly supply the population with grain in 1991-1992 and to supply husbandry farms with fodders (at 50 percent), no less than 40-50 million tons of grain must pass through the system of state purchases. We know how much has been obtained as of 2 September. And we also know that on the farms there still remain about 60 million tons of grain which, for the time being, no one is preparing to hand over for the time being. This is despite the fact that, in the words of Leonid Cheshinskiy, "never has such a quantity of resources for counter-delivery to the countryside been allotted as in this year."

The reasons for such a situation are the following. First, as usual, all the oblasts received tasks which clearly were not connected in any fashion to their actual capabilities. For example, the Mari ASSR achieved the cancellation of their tax in kind "because of drought," and at the same time the yield of grain in the republic increased by 2.5 quintals per hectare. A strange drought, is it not?

Second, there is no sense in complaining about the large counter- deliveries. Instances show that a portion of the equipment allotted toward exchange for grain over and above the tax in kind was distributed in 17 oblasts long before the harvest, and not always the way it was targeted.

Third, some agricultural farms have misunderstood the principles of a market economy and believe that it is possible to "seize Russia by the throat" in this fashion, demanding an additional quantity of commodities on threat of famine.

And, fourth, in some places the checks from "Harvest-90" are still not backed by goods, and not everything is going as smoothly as one would wish with the fodder, equipment, fuel, and lubricants promised by the central authorities. This too slows down the oblasts and republics.

According to Cheshinskiy, only the farms and the leaders at the local level, with whom "one must talk personally," are to blame for everything. Nonetheless, this interpretation of events did not receive support either from the leaders at the local level or from the higher leadership of Russia. After all, everyone knows that within the regions the tax in kind and the state order are distributed in an extremely unequal fashion, often completely arbitrarily. And it happens that at one sovkhoz 100 percent goes to the tax in kind while at a neighboring sovkhoz neither a tax in kind or a state order is imposed.

44 Percent of Harvest Order Already Procured

LD2609155191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Political passions have pushed our economic problems into the background. But many think that stern tests await us this winter. They are especially worried about the fate of the harvest.

According to information in the latest USSR Goskomstat bulletin, more than 33.5 millions tonnes have now been procured for the state's resources, representing 44 percent of the state order. For comparison, by this date last year the volume of state procurements was more than 55 million tonnes.

Harvest Figures

PM2709120191 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 Sep 91 p 2

[TASS report under the "Official Section" rubric: "USSR State Statistics Committee Reports"]

[Text] Grain and pulse crops have been cut from an area of 91.2 million hectares (90 percent of the crop area) and threshed from 89.3 million hectares (88 percent). In the country as a whole 148.4 million tonnes of grain have been threshed. By this date last year the figure was 203.6 million tonnes.

Precisely 33.8 million tonnes have been bought into the state resources, or 44 percent of the state order. By this date last year the volume of state purchases stood at 55.6 million tonnes.

Potatoes have been lifted from an area of 1.183 million hectares, which is 68 percent of the total area planted.

Sugar beets have been harvested on 930,000 hectares. Some 520,000 tonnes of sugar have been produced. The figure for this date last year was 703,000 tonnes.

Vegetables have been harvested from an area of 422,000 hectares (46 percent of the crop area).

Troops Assist Rain-Affected Kurgan Harvest Work

PM2609135991 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Sep 91

[Report by Yu. Balandin; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Balandin] Kurgan Oblast has been hit by heavy rain following the severe summer drought. Certain fields can only be reached by helicopter. Around 1,300 military vehicles with their own repair and servicing facilities are engaged in transporting grain, potatoes, and feed crops. The vehicle battalions have been formed from auxiliary

subunits and units of the country's Air Defense Forces. They started harvest work back in the summer in Volgograd Oblast, so they've been hard at work for some time. But the motor vehicle personnel are not giving up in the face of difficulties. They're transporting more than 7,000 tonnes of freight every day. [Video shows A.N. Sorokin, chief of the harvesting operations group]

[Sorokin] There are difficulties at the moment—mainly the weather conditions. It's constantly raining. We're trying to use every minute and every hour to help the oblast bring in the harvest. One other problem for us is the lack of sufficient gasoline. We have to calculate our journeys virtually down to the last 10 meters or the last kilometer so as to economize on fuel.

[S.S. Krivoruchko, deputy chief of the operations group] We're trying to ensure that every man pulls his weight and that people have good memories of the personnel working under our command.

[Balandin] The people and the Army are united—and, as you can see, those are not empty words. Incidentally, after their job in the Transurals, the motor vehicle troops will have more harvest work ahead of them.

Food Production Slump Affecting Merchant Ships

PM2609131791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Sep 91

[Report by O. Bobin; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Bobin] September is the peak month for shipping on the Volga. And this month, after 73 years, the ships of our largest river steamship line are again flying the Russian tricolor. Its return is natural—it was actually created in 1705 by Peter I as a commercial flag for merchant ships. But this shipping season the economic situation isn't helping the ships flying the tricolor to be successful. [Video shows V.V. Nefedov]

[Nefedov] We're carrying 8 percent less cargo compared with last year. We're particularly worried about the falloff in the amount of food being shipped.

[Bobin] For centuries the fleet here has been developed to strengthen ties with the republic's most densely populated and economically developed territory—which lies in the Volga-Kama-Oka Basin. The disruption of these ties is currently putting the riverboat men in a difficult position. The production slump is forcing enterprises to cancel shipping orders at the very last minute. These ships have to return home empty, burning up scarce fuel in the process. Farms are hanging on to their agricultural produce, and large numbers of refrigerated diesel ships have been carrying paper instead of vegetables. It's as if our economy has sailed away from the planning system on one riverbank, but the market system hasn't arrived on the other bank yet. And the Volga, like a sensitive instrument, is showing this up.

Fish Farm 'Bankrupted' by Pollution Disaster

PM2609134391 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 19 Sep 91

[Report by S. Sergeyev, from Troitsk, Chelyabinsk Oblast; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Large numbers of fish have perished as a result of an ecological catastrophe at the Troitsk water reservoir in Chelyabinsk Oblast.

[Sergeyev] The Troitsk reservoir is one of a few where fish are bred all the year round thanks to warm water from the Troitskaya GRES [state regional electric power station]. One of Russia's biggest fish farms is located near the station. However, this neighborhood is fraught with a certain danger. Because of the discharge of harmful substances into the reservoir this is not the first time that fish have died. But never on this scale. In a matter of days 600 tonnes of carp, trout, and sturgeon have perished. Half of the annual catch has ended up on the garbage dump.

Clearly it is not just the power station workers who are to blame. Effluent from all the industrial enterprises in Troitsk is discharged into the water reservoir. The old purification installations can no longer cope. And although the commissioning document for new installations which took 17 years to build was signed last year, the new complex is essentially standing idle.

According to preliminary estimates the fish farm has sustained losses totaling 4.5 million rubles. This has virtually bankrupted the enterprise. Unfortunately, this has happened precisely when the collective, overcoming many difficulties, had finally won the right to transform the fish farm into a leaseholding enterprise.

Those responsible for the loss of the valuable fish must be identified. However, the local law enforcement organs are in no hurry to do so. Meanwhile time does not stand still and evidence is vanishing fast with every passing day.

Scientific

Yeltsin Orders Urals Cleared of Radiation

PM2609144991 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2005 GMT 23 Sep 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Kiselev] According to an INTERFAX report, RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] President Boris Yeltsin has signed an instruction on measures to eliminate the consequences of radioactive contamination in Chelyabinsk Oblast. Let us recall the background to this report.

[Unidentified voice over video] ...A secret weapons-grade plutonium plant, now known as the Mayak Association, [was built here]. Subsequently, for almost a decade radioactive production waste was being discharged into the Techa River. Then a disaster occurred that was hushed up for almost 30 years. In 1957, a thermal explosion occurred at the Mayak Association. Radioactive contamination spread over an area of some 1,000 square kilometers. Inhabitants of Chelyabinsk, Kurgan, and Sverdlovsk Oblasts were affected. According to specialists, the scale of contamination exceeds that of Chernobyl. To this day, the local background radiation exceeds all permissible limits dozens of times over.

Yeltsin was able to see this for himself when he came here on the eve of the Russian presidential election in June. He visited the Mayak Association and population centers affected by radioactive contamination at the time of the accident. He talked to the local inhabitants.

Now, by Yeltsin's decision, the Russian Government is instructed to draft within one month a state program to rehabilitate the radiation situation in the Urals region. This program is to be submitted for examination by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

Radioactive Contamination Still Found in Moscow

PM2609143791 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Sep 91

[By V. Kukushin; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Kukushin] More and more secrets are becoming known. As if by magic, independent experts from the geologorazvedka [geological research team] concern's radioecological department have found sources of radioactive contamination in the capital and other cities of the republic. Here is a map of Moscow. Anomalies, areas of increased radiation, are marked with various squares. Admittedly, we were told that only 15 places are severely contaminated. And the civil defense service has cleaned many of them up with the meager funds at its disposal. Regrettably, only the rich man has the privilege of not living on a trash heap.

[Ye. Dokuchayev] At the moment this area presents no danger to residents of adjoining rayons because it has no effect on the surrounding area. But it does present a potential danger.

[Kukushin] Do you think that it will be possible to find the culprits?

[Dokuchayev] Our experience tells a story. We have been working in Moscow since 1982, and the geological ecology center—I am referring to the geologorazvedka concern—has discovered 616 areas of radioactive contamination. Yet to date none of the culprits have been found.

[Kukushin] Although this area is dosimetrically clean, if you start digging at a depth of five meters, you may find anything, any kind of garbage.

Items Recovered From Sunken Nuclear Submarine

PM2609133591 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[By V. Batalov; from "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Members of an expedition to investigate the Komsomlets submarine, which sunk two years ago, have returned to St. Petersburg.

[Batalov] The submarine has found its last haven at the bottom of the Norwegian Sea, near Medvezhiy Island. This clock stopped forever at the moment of the tragedy, registering the time of the accident. Members of the expedition dived six times to a depth of 1,700 meters in deep-sea craft. With the help of manipulators, they extricated from the seabed the hydroacoustic station receiver, a hatch ring, a giant screw bolt that looks as if it had been sheared off with a blade, and other objects that testify to the catastrophe.

Experts also studied the ecological situation carefully, taking samples of water and the seabed and measuring radioactivity. After all, the reactor is under the metal hull, which is damaged only at the front, and there are torpedoes with nuclear warheads.

The study of the material gathered by the expedition members will only slightly unravel the mystery of the loss of the Komsomolets. The definitive version can only be obtained by raising the sunken ship.

Military

Gorbachev Pledges Help in Servicemen's Affairs

LD2609185291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has backed the idea of setting up a committee under the USSR president to deal with the affairs of servicemen and members of their families, and intends to put this proposal forward for discussion by the State Council. This is the main result of a meeting between the country's president and members of the Presidium of the all-Union Council of Servicemen's Parents, held in the Kremlin today. It was the head of state's third meeting with soldiers' mothers, and the president assured them that during the reform of society and the Army, which is gaining strength, state and public structures will engage more energetically in tackling the problem of the social and legal security of servicemen and members of their families.

Chief of Staff Details 'New Concept' of Command

LD2709051691 Moscow TASS in English 0245 GMT 27 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS—The Soviet Union is actively elaborating a new concept of military building, head of the Soviet Armed Forces General Headquarters, Army General Vladimir Lobov said today while meeting with military attaches from foreign embassies in Moscow.

Lobov said that expert groups have proposed several programs that were brought to two major variants.

In the words of the general, the first variant provides for the Soviet president as the supreme commander-in-chief having two ways to control military affairs.

The first one is the civil Ministry of Defence with non-military administration to involve in military policy, military economy, training of young people for Army service, and rear support. The ministry will have its own budget.

The second element shall be a military organisation: the supreme commander-in-chief (Soviet president), general or united headquarters and subordinated bodies to control the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.

These two vertical structures will be supervised by the country's president, that would enable a reliable control over activities of the Armed Forces.

The second variant provides for the creation of a simpler structure, consisting of two elements: a civil Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces subordinated to it.

The two projects are under discussion, the most rational elements of them will be used.

In addition, the system of military districts will, probably, be discussed. This system now seems outdated, Lobov said.

It seems that the variant "one republic-one district" will be used.

The change of military service terms and system of recruitment is also envisaged. It seems that a soldier will spend six months in a training formation, and then 12 months in troops. At the same time, some militarymen will be able to conclude long-term contracts to enter into force upon the completion of active service.

This process will, possibly, begin in spring of 1992, the general said.

Omsk Servicemen Caught Stealing Weapons

PM2609125391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Report by V. Morozova in Omsk; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Large-scale thefts of arms have taken place in Omsk.

[Morozova] There is nothing unusual in people trying to smuggle stolen goods through the gate of a meat processing plant. But it is incomprehensible how weapons could be carried out in kit-bags past a military unit check-point. Nonetheless, Private Perminov was detained trying to steal a couple of dozen pistols. The trail was pursued and it was discovered that over the past three months thirteen people had stolen...

[unidentified official] ...208 pistols, 14 automatic rifles, and one machine gun to date, according to our information.

[second unidentified official] The weapons were stored in special premises, suitable for this purpose, you might think.

[Morozova] You might think... In actual fact it has emerged that the weapons were stored even more carelessly than potatoes.

[Morozova turning to third unidentified official] It seems that in our country it is possible to steal anything, even weapons.

[third unidentified official] Yes, in our country it is possible to steal anything, even weapons.

[Morozova] Why did people steal the weapons?

[fourth unidentified officials] They are saying that they did it for self-defense.

[Morozova] It can not have been for self-defense that the middlemen needed the large batches of weapons. Twenty-five pistols were discovered in the possession of contract construction workers, 36 pistols in the possession of an industrial worker, and 60 in the possession of a higher educational establishment student. I must mention that large sums of money were paid to the soldiers who stole the weapons—up to 4,000 rubles [R] for a pistol and up to R10,000 for automatic weapons.

[N.N. Afanasyev, deputy chief of criminal investigation militia] The servicemen stole the weapons mainly to sell them, to obtain substantial sums of money.

[Morozova] The money has been confiscated from the servicemen—some R230,000.

[Afanasyev] Large quantities of weapons have been exported from our oblast. According to our information they went to the Baltic Republics, the Caucasus, and large cities, that is Moscow...

[Morozova] Maybe tomorrow people will start stealing tanks in this way...

[V.N. Obraztsov, chief of Omsk Internal Affairs Administration] I cannot rule this out. Given this attitude on the part of the military unit command anything can happen.

Military Observer on Security of Nuclear Arms

LD2609183591 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Announcer-read commentary by Military Observer Colonel Vadim Solovyev]

[Text] Is there a threat of unauthorized uses of nuclear weapons at a time when the former Soviet Union is replaced by a new Union?

I can say with full responsibility a threat of this kind does not exist. I have discussed this with the Soviet Defense Ministry officials who possess reliable information about nuclear weapons. They all agree that guarding and control of nuclear weapons guarantee their preservation and rule out unwarranted uses. The control system of the more vulnerable tactical nuclear weapons, the battlefield, resembles the scheme followed by the armies of other nations. There is a number of back up control channels. There are special codes at the disposal of the center. They are unknown, not only to local authorities but even key officials. The national president controls them. The nuclear warheads are kept separately from delivery vehicles. Their preparation and launching require special command from the center. And, mind you, nuclear weapons facilities are now guarded more heavily than ever before.

Or take this question—what status will nuclear weapons enjoy in the new union of independent republics? Representatives of the republics and the Soviet Defence Ministry command thrashed out this question at a recent meeting. Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, who took part, sums it up.

[Begin recording; Manilov in Russian with superimposed English translation] The supervision, control, storage, and usage of nuclear and other weapons of mass annihilation is the prerogative of the center. The leaders of all republics agreed the control of all nuclear forces must be centralized. The position of nuclear weapons must be kept unchanged. They must not be redeployed. Understandably, this must be recorded into new union papers, including a treaty for the union of sovereign states, and this must be in keeping with the law on defense and coordinated with all the republics. And national stability and international security must be necessarily ensured.

Magazine Details 1986 Submarine Accident

LD2709050991 Moscow TASS in English 0229 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 27 TASS—"Two nuclear reactors could show signs of runaway any time. And this would mean a catastrophe, which would result in the death of the whole crew and radioactive contamination of a vast water area and air space off shore Northern America," the October issue of the ECHO OF THE PLANET magazine wrote about the 1986 Soviet nuclear-powered submarine accident.

These could be the consequences of an accident equal in its scale to that of Chernobyl.

One can speak of many circumstances of the accident onboard the Soviet nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarine of the Yankee type only presumably, the magazine writes.

The causes of the accident are not completely clear, materials of the special commission, which investigated the accident, remain classified, and witnesses are constrained by signed statements on non-divulgence.

There was, actually, a fire onboard the submarine, but it was not the cause of the accident. It was rather a consequence.

About 5 A.M. on October 3, 1986, water began to flow into a missile silo of the Soviet nuclear-powered ballistic missile-carrying submarine located about 1,000 kilometers north-east of the Bermudas. The water smashed the body of a missile with liquid fuel that led to its leakage and provoked a powerful explosion.

Moscow immediately informed Washington on this fact.

The crew and the submarine escaped immediate death. probably, thanks to the strongly-weld hull and the fact that a considerable part of the explosion energy went out trough the silo cover, the damage of which caused the accident.

The fire was localized and extinguished, but the explosion provoked a leakage of poisonous oxidizer, one of the missile fuel components.

After a few hours of fight for the survivability of the submarine, the power installation remote control system ran out of operation. Only two people could save the situation: group commander Senior Lieutenant Nikolay Belikov and sailor Sergey Preminin. Only they were capable of controlling the reactor by hand.

And these two, making enormous efforts, prevented the catastrophe. However, Sergey Preminin, the only one of the whole crew, did not manage to escape from the hot poisonous steam. The submarine sank.

The possibility of nuclear explosion and radioactive contamination of the environment is excluded, concluded specialists, including U.S. experts.

The magazine recalled that at that time some U.S. papers wrote that in the first half of October, 1986, a nuclear-powered submarine of the U.S. Navy got its hull slightly damaged as result of a collision with an underwater object while patrolling an area in the Atlantic Ocean.

An examination of the U.S. submarine revealed a damage of the bow bottom part of the hull and the sonar dome.

After the surfacing of the Soviet submarine, a double furrow, shot with metallic glitter, was seen on its port side. Why did it appear? Experts failed to give a convincing answer.

Some believe that the furrow was made by the cover of the missile silo torn away by the explosion. Others think that the trace was left by a strange object. It is not excluded that this strange object was a foreign submarine, the magazine notes.

Baltic Affairs

Delegations Meet Nordic Council in Copenhagen

LD2709062191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] A meeting of the Presidium of the Nordic Council and of the parliamentary delegations of the Baltic states opened today in Copenhagen. Prospects of cooperation between the Nordic Council and the Baltic Council were discussed and problems of bilateral projects for the development of political, economic, and cultural ties between the Scandinavian and Baltic states were examined.

The Lithuanian delegation is headed by Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis.

Estonia

Prime Minister Savisaar Begins Denmark Visit

OW2609134691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1015 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Prime-Minister Edgar Savisaar begins his visit to Denmark today. There he will meet his Danish counterpart Poul Schluter. He will also hold talks with the Agriculture minister Laurits Tornaesl and the Transport Minister Kaj Ikast. The purpose of the talks is to expand bilateral relations in two key areas: transport and farming.

Parliament Invalidates Deputies' Mandates

OW2609141691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1015 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian parliament has invalidated the mandates of the USSR People's Deputies elected from Estonia, as on August 20 Estonia declared its full independence that was recognized by the USSR.

The decision was preceeded by arguments, because some MPs claimed that the mandates can be invalidated only by the credentials commission of the Congress of Peoples Deputies

No Comment on Sobchak Appointment as Negotiator

LD2609173791 Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn September 26 TASS—There has yet been no comment in Estonia on Mikhail Gorbachev's decision to appoint St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak head of the delegation to the talks between Soviet federal authorities and the Baltic breakaway republic.

Sobchak has always been a stanch supporter of Baltic independence, but there are fears today his position may change because Estonia intends to regain its borders of 1920 and return part of its territory which was incorporated into the Leningrad region after World War II.

The Estonian Supreme Soviet has dissolved its delegation to the talks with Soviet Central authoruities. A new delegation, which is yet to be formed, has to work out and sign an agreement with the USSR on state relations, the borders, and Soviet troops pullout from Estonia, Arno Almann, an adviser to the Estonian parliament chairman, said.

Vitali Menshikov, leader of the "Civilian Accord" parliamentary faction in the Estonian parliament, demanded that the republican Supreme Soviet speeds up preparations for talks with central authorities. Estonia was always the first to insist on talks on its sovereignty. Now moscow has seized the initiative by appointing leaders to its negotiations with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, he said.

Immediate Withdrawal of Soviet Troops Demanded

OW2609222691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At its meeting on September 26, the Committee of Estonia, a consultative body set up by the Congress of Estonian Citizens which brings together those who lived in it before annexation by the USSR in 1940 and their descendants, demanded that Soviet troops be immediately pulled out of the republic, a "BF" [BALTFAX] correspondent reports. The committee also categorically opposed Estonia's participation in an economic community of former Soviet republics.

Latvia

Agreement To Be Signed on Border Protection

LD2709052191 Moscow TASS in English 0059 GMT 27 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga September 26 TASS—Latvia has decided to follow the example of Lithuania and Estonia in the joint protection of their borders by republican and Union guards. An agreement to this effect will soon be signed. A draft agreement will be submitted tomorrow by Latvian Prime Minister Ivar Godmanis during his meeting with Chairman of the Soviet State Security Committee Vadim Bakatin. The document also provides for the Latvian guards' protection of the eastern borders, the Latvian premier said.

Godmanis also plans a meeting with Soviet Interior Minister Viktor Barannikov for tomorrow.

The republic is interested in the withdrawal from its territory of two interior troop regiments—an escort and a patrol ones, the prime minister said. Their functions will be performed by local battalions from January 1.

The Riga Special Militia Unit (OMON) now stationed in Tyumen will be discussed as well. Representatives of the Latvian and Russian procurator's offices will go there to continue investigation on the unit's previous actions.

Natives Requested for Patrol

OW2609160391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Committee of the Congress of Latvian Citizens has passed a resolution expressing concern over the fact that some Latvian residents—citizens of the USSR have been admitted to the border protection service, customs and police of Latvia.

The Committee believes only Latvian citizens, i.e. those who had the Latvian citizenship before June 17, 1940, and their descendants can serve in these units.

"The involvement of foreigners in militarized units may pose a threat to Latvia in the future", the resolution points out.

Lithuania

Shevardnadze Welcomed as Delegate to Talks

OW2609113391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1000 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press secretary of the Lithuanian parliament Audrius Azubalis has told a briefing in parliament that Lithuania welcomed the appointment of Eduard Shevardnadze as the head of the Soviet delegation to the talks with Lithuania and described him as a serious politician. He voiced hope that Shevardnadze will form a delegation that will constructively work and have all the powers for holding such talks.

On Wednesday President Gorbachev named Shevardnadze the head of the delegation for talks vith Lithuania, Aleksandr Yakovlev for talks vith Latvia and Anatoliy Sobchak with Estonia. Parliament protested against the worsening of the position of Poles in Lithuania and suggested forming a joint commission with Lithuania to settle the matter.

As BF [BALTFAX] has reported, the tension in relations between Lithuania and Poland was caused by the suspension of the activities of local government bodies in Salcininkai and Vilnius regions having the biggest shares of Polish population on account of supporting the coup.

Commenting on the proposal of the Polish side the press secretary said that Lithuania is ready to discuss the formation of such a commission. He stressed, however, that the reason for its formation could be the worsening of bilateral relations, not the worsening of the position of Poles in Lithuania as this problem does not exist.

He drew the attention of journalists to a Wednesday TASS report that Poles, Russians and Belorussians are allegedly forming "an army for the liberation of the Vilnius area". Quoting a statement by Landsbergis on the issue, the press secretary called the report a provocation aimed at destabilizing the situation in Lithuania. He stressed that neither the government, nor the Interior Ministry have received any messages from the organizers of the "army" mentioned by the TASS report.

Appeal for UN, EEC To Defuse Yugoslav Conflict

OW2609225591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The parliament of Lithuania has urged the governments of Yugoslavia and Serbia to stop at once their agression against Croatia. Lithuania has already recognized Croatia's independence.

The parliament also adopted a resolution calling upon the UN and the EEC to undertake efforts to defuse the situation in Croatia.

Vagnorius Assesses Economic Problems, Prospects

LD2609205791 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1115 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Report delivered by Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius at the Lithuanian Supreme Council in Vilnius on 26 September—recorded]

[Summary] It is evident that the situation is changing; at the same time, having overcome many political difficulties, several economic difficulties lie ahead. "We must overcome many specific economic difficulties and withstand the currently incited propoganda from the outside, including from the Soviet Union." "Various political statements and the pressure by some conservative forces which, I am sure, we will see later, are still strong. We should not assume that we have won a complete victory."

"We can see today how the Jewish problem was artificially raised and how the Polish problem is artificially raised, by presenting it as a nationality issue although in fact, we know very well, these are only political issues which should be solved by political means, through negotiations and discussions. Some organizations in the Soviet Union, however, have made use of this issue. A provocative leaflet appeared yesterday, which allegedly

was disseminated by TASS." The government should be prepared for a propaganda campaign from outside.

"At present the main economic problem is the fact that we have advanced half-way or perhaps even further in the direction of the market economy and we must take the last remaining steps; to adopt the most unpopular decisions. And this remains to be done. If we do not manage to maintain our advanced positions in the sphere of the economic reform, there is no doubt that future life for us will be very complicated. If we manage to carry out the economic reform to the end much earlier than the economic reforms in the Soviet Union, however, much earlier—and we have all the possibilities to do that—or even earlier than that of the neighboring republics, then I believe that we will remain in the center of attention." Otherwise the whole attention will be given to the republics of the Soviet Union. The main problem remains the same as before, the difference between state prices and market prices. Here lies the core of all misfortunes, which includes the growth in crime. The only serious ground for crime growth is the existing situation, which provides the possibility to obtain the goods from state factories by paying the fixed state price and then selling them at a market price 50 to 100 percent higher. This cannot be solved by legal means. Private trade organizations without free market prices in the entire economy are nothing else but criminal activity. "At present the government is almost ready, legally and organizationally, to go over to final market relations. If, for example our readiness for this is compared to the Soviet Union—and some people cite Estonia as an example—if compared with these states, then there is no doubt that we have advanced much further. This has been stated at the meetings with the World Bank and the IMF."

"We think that the transition to market prices should be completed by the end of this year. And if the Supreme Council approves this transition, having first adopted certain government decisions which will increase social guarantees and protect the population's income from the depreciation that will take place after the transition to market prices, we should start this transition at the beginning of November." In October the governemnt could adopt a decision on social guarantees, and the enterprises could increase wages by 30 percent. Prices could be increased by not more than 15 percent. "I think that in increasing the minimum wage to 350 rubles and correspondingly raising pensions and other payments, we will somewhat improve the social situation so that the transition in November to market prices may be more smooth. If we do not do this now, next year will be more complicated." We must restore the state as soon as possible, create an economic system, and reduce dependence on other states.

"We could introduce our own currency now. The banknotes and coins are already here. But if we take this step today, there is a great risk that we will introduce many complications in our trade relations with the Soviet Union and Russia. Various consultations and negotiations would be necessary, but at present there are no subjects for this, that is, there are no organs with which we could discuss these problems. At present we are coordinating economic agreement with Russia, and we see well what is happening there. Simply, nobody there is engaged in any economic activity. Politics there is now supreme, the problems of the staff and so on. If we introduced our own currency, we would face many negative problems—the settling of accounts, price structures would change; they should once again be discussed and coordinated with the corresponding enterprises and departments. Unfortunately, we must reconcile ourselves to the situation that at present there is no market in the Soviet Union, it will not be there soon, and at present we can only obtain some products and raw materials there through their centralized organs."

If Lithuania wishes to reduce its economic dependence on the Soviet Union, it must think about alternative sources of raw materials. Investment in private enterprises should be encouraged; not less than 20 percent of state enterprises should be privatized by yearend. And then normal private activity will start. Foreign investment should also be encouraged.

"At present there are opportunities for Lithuania and, I believe, other Baltic republics, too, to become that island where businessmen and those who wish to maintain economic and trade relations with the east, with the Soviet Union's republics, will feel safe. We are receiving at present more pleasant information to the effect half a year ago many enterprises were establishing offices in Belorussia and Russia, at present offices from Russia, Belorussia and other neighboring republics are moving to Lithuania. This is very useful. Indeed, Lithuania should be a middleman in trade between East and West."

The situation in Lithuania's agriculture is bad, and the republic probably cannot export agricultural products, except such products as flax fiber etc. But credits should also be granted to agriculture. A future investment fund will take care of this.

Without a developed banking system, Lithuania will not attract foreign capital. Therefore the reorganization of banks must be completed by yearend. "The Lithuanian Bank, as the central bank, is and must be completely independent in the sphere of money circulation. But while there is no Lithuanian currency, there is no money circulation, and it cannot be at present independent because part of its functions is in the hands of the Soviet Union's central banks. But this does not mean that there is no work for it. The Lithuanian Bank must engage in the policy of credits and investments, it must be ready to introduce our currency and essentially engage in the circulation of money. This is its main duty."

It is important that some larger reliable foreign bank should have its branch in Lithuania, and I hope that an international bank will be established in Lithuania. Certain negotiations are taking place in this sphere. A Baltic

investment bank is to be set up in Helsinki, and various investment offers are on the way.

There is no need to have the Ministry of Trade and the Ministry of Material Resources. There should be one ministry—the ministry of trade and material resources. A ministry of internal economic relations should be established. The Ministry of Defense is being formed. The number of officials at the ministries will not be increased.

Work on New Immigration Legislation Under Way

OW2609225791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Work on an immigration law is now under way in Lithuania. The law is expected to be enacted by parliament some time soon and to take effect on January 1, 1992. The leader of the team charged with drawing up the law, Mr Stasys Vaitekunas, told "BF" [BALTFAX] in Vilnius that quotas will be set for immigrants, although they could be reviewed.

The right to permanent residence in Lithuania, although not its citizenship, will be granted to persons who have received an invitation from a legal entity or a citizen of the republic. Some categories of people, however, could be barred from entering the republic. These include those people who have contracted contagious diseases, are mentally retarded or deficient, drug addicts, glue sniffers and alcoholics, as well as persons engaged in activities contrary to the interests of Lithuania or who have committed felony during the last five years.

Amnesty for Military Crimes Introduced

PM2609121791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Irina Litvinova report under "Direct Line" rubric: "Amnesty for Military Crimes"]

[Text] Riga—The Latvian Supreme Soviet has adopted a law granting amnesty for people who have committed military crimes.

Permanent residents of Latvia were drafted into the Soviet Army on the basis of USSR laws. As of 21 August, when Latvia was proclaimed an independent state, only laws and resolutions adopted by Latvian organs of state power and management are valid on its territory. The military crimes previously mentioned in republic legislation were deleted as criminal acts from the criminal code 10 September, and those people against whom proceedings had been instituted for these crimes are to be exempted from serving their sentences. On this basis the Supreme Soviet has exempted everyone convicted of military crimes—irrespective of where the proceedings were instituted or where they were serving their sentence—from bearing criminal liability and serving their sentences.

The Latvian Supreme Soviet has asked supreme organs of power in the former union republics to take steps to release permanent residents of Latvia on their territory who were drafted into the USSR Armed Forces from Latvia and were subsequently convicted of military crimes.

Procuracy Contacted on Medininkaje Assassin Names

OW2609222491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy Procurator General of Lithuania, Mr Giadvidas Norkunas, has confirmed to "BF" [BALTFAX] that a citizen of the USSR had contacted the republic's procuracy on August 19 and offered to give the names of the assassins who had murdered seven people at the customs post at Medininkaje in late July. According to Mr Norkunas, this man had asked for guarantees that he would get half a million roubles for the tip-off, and had also promised to show the place where the guns with which the customs officers were killed were hidden. He has not been heard from ever since. "We are afraid he may be killed", Mr Norkunas said.

Registered Unemployed 11,000; Jobless Tops 28,000

OW2609174691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to official reports, at least 11,000 unemployed have been registered in Lithuania. However, the newspaper "Lijetuvos Ritas" says the number of people without a job or means of subsistence reaches 28,000. In the near future an estimated 10,000 Lithuanian young men demobilized from the Soviet Army may also become unemployed. According to the Lithuanian Home Defense Department, there are about 17,000 Lithuanian soldiers and over 1,000 officers in the Soviet Army.

Meanwhile, the Lithuanian labor registry office has begun to consult the unemployed free of charge about how to set up a business of their own or a joint-stock company.

Federation Affairs

Supreme Soviet Discusses Socioeconomic Situation

PM2609122191 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 1

[Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) Resolution "On the Socioeconomic Situation in the RSFSR"]

[Text] Having heard and discussed a report "On the Socioeconomic Situation in the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]" by O.I. Lobov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet notes that the crisis in the RSFSR economy continues to deepen.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers did not ensure to a sufficient degree the implementation of an effective economic and social policy elaborated by decisions of the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies and RSFSR Supreme Soviet. To this day, no effective mechanisms for implementing laws guaranteeing the formation of a market economy and the implementation of the land reform have been created.

The arbitrary seizure of Union property is under way, and the RSFSR president's 20 August 1991 Decree "On Securing the Economic Basis of RSFSR Sovereignty" is being ignored: As a result, old bureaucratic structures have regrouped their forces and are setting up new, gigantic formations in the shape of associations and concerns, which in fact are the very same central ministries and departments. New opportunities created by the victory of the August 1991 democratic revolution are not being exploited.

The following aspects are noted: the deceleration of economic reform; the inconsistency and indecisiveness of government actions in implementing this reform; the lack of coordination and accord between government departments.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet **resolves:**

1. To recognize the RSFSR Council of Ministers' work as unsatisfactory in the sphere of implementing the measures of the anticrisis program and the program for resurrecting the Russian countryside.

2. To propose that the RSFSR president revise staffing in the RSFSR Council of Ministers with the purpose of removing from their posts those leaders who fail to secure the execution of Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies and RSFSR Supreme Soviet laws and resolutions.

3. To propose that the RSFSR president submit a state program to stabilize the economy and transfer to market relations for approval by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet before 1 November 1991.

4. To call upon the RSFSR Council of Ministers in conjunction with the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Industry and Energy to fix the procedure for placing hitherto Union-owned enterprises under RSFSR jurisdiction without interrupting their functioning before 1 October 1991 in accordance with RSFSR legislation.

5. The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium must ensure that the state of affairs regarding the realization of economic reforms is reviewed regularly by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

[Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet
Moscow, RSFSR House of Soviets
20 September, 1991

Statute Sets Functions of Yeltsin Advisory Group

PM2609151991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Sep 91 p 2

[Undated "Statute on the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) President's Group of Experts"]

[Text] 1. The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] President's Group of Experts (hereafter the Group of Experts) has been set up to provide the RSFSR president with information on and analysis of socioeconomic problems.

2. Leadership of the activity of the Group of Experts is exercised by the RSFSR president and the leader of the RSFSR president's administration.

3. For the preparation of material on particularly important problems the leader of the Group of Experts can set up temporary creative collectives of scientists and specialists within the expenditure estimate envisaged for these purposes.

4. The Group of Experts:

obtains, analyzes, and systematizes information on the state of and developmental trends in the economy and social problems in the RSFSR and on the existing spectrum of opinions held by political and social movements and individual economists and public figures on the most important socioeconomic questions, and evaluates the reliability and completeness of socioeconomic information;

carries out expert analysis of information connected with practical proposals made to the RSFSR president;

prepares forecast assessments of the potential consequences of implementing the draft decisions of RSFSR state management in the sphere of the economy and the actions of organs of state power and management, foreign states, enterprises, organizations, and citizens in an area where they can exert a determining influence on the socioeconomic situation in the RSFSR;

analyzes proposals sent to the RSFSR president on carrying out economic reform in the RSFSR;

with the involvement of scientists and specialists, carries out preparatory work and participates in public discussion of key socioeconomic problems and ways of tackling them;

prepares and submits to the RSFSR president reports and analytical and information memorandums on questions concerning the RSFSR's socioeconomic development and brief weekly surveys of the current socioeconomic situation in the RSFSR;

participates in the preparation of draft legislative acts of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, draft decrees of the RSFSR president, and draft decisions of the RSFSR Council of Ministers on socioeconomic problems.

5. The leader of the Group of Experts presents to the RSFSR president at least once a month a detailed report on the developmental trends in the socioeconomic situation in the republic.

Silayev Resignation, New Appointment Viewed

PM2609134991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Sep 91 p 2

[Article by S. Razin: "Did Ivan Stepanovich Really Quarrel With Boris Nikolayevich?"]

[Text] Back on 16 September the State Council appointed I. Silayev chairmen of the Interrepublic Economic Committee. But we only learned about it two days later. A strange delay, which makes one wonder about the reasons behind the Russian premier's resignation.

"I had no reason to refuse"—that was how Ivan Stepanovich himself explained his appointment. Although in the corridors of the Russian parliament another version is current: Yeltsin did not miss the chance of getting rid of Silayev. This version may sound a bit crazy to some people. But our popularly elected representatives are in no hurry to dismiss it and can cite a number of curious details. Not so long ago Silayev became president of the Congress of Russian Business Circles, which unites all the most influential commercial structures. This fact can be interpreted in different ways: On the one hand, the premier was clearly preparing a "reserve airfield" for himself by becoming president, but, on the other, he had clearly strengthened his position. Silayev's prestige grew still further at the barricades around the "White House," which clearly does not chime in with Yeltsin's recent decree about limiting the independence of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers.

Incidentally, another version is no less likely: Silayev made his own choice out of good will, aware of the promising nature of the interrepublic economic agreement prepared by the G. Yavlinskiy group. In the transitional period quite strict centralized economic management will most probably be maintained. Although the republics are undoubtedly attempting to make their own amendments, the fundamental model is unlikely to be disrupted. Experts believe that the economic agreement will be signed at the next State Council meeting in late September.

At least there are no particular contradictions in the positions of the four giants—Russia, the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Kazakhstan. And the other former republics simply have nowhere to go.

Silayev's new appointment is logical in all respects. By emerging from Yeltsin's shadow he has killed two birds with one stone: The Union Government is finally led by a popular politician who enjoys the people's confidence. And, at the same time, he is becoming an important counterweight in relations between Russia and the other "Union" states.

Who will replace Silayev as Russian premier? Three candidates are rumored to be in the running: Svyatoslav Fedorov, Yevgeniy Saburov, and Oleg Lobov. In the corridors of parliament the last candidate is considered the most likely. The logic is simple: If Yuriy Petrov, former first secretary of Sverdlovsk Oblast Party Committee [obkom], has became head of the presidential administration, why should Oleg Lobov—the former second secretary of the same obkom—not become premier? At any rate, it was Lobov, as Silayev's first deputy, who delivered a report to parliament on Russia's socioeconomic position and answered deputies' numerous questions.

Economic Committee Decisions Valid After Approval

LD2609190591 Moscow TASS in English 1018 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS Observer Nikolay Zheleznov]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—The Russian Council of Ministers ruled late last night that resolutions of the Soviet National Economy Management Committee are valid on Russian territory only after its approval. The decision means the first big compromise between Ivan Silayev, Russian prime minister, and the same Ivan Silayev appointed head of the Committee in Charge of Soviet Economy after the foiled August coup, Sergey Shakhrai, Russian state adviser, said.

Silayev, as head of the committee, appealed to Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Monday to cancel some of his decrees turning federal property under Russian jurisdiction. Silayev wanted to retain such nationally important ministries as the atomic energy, oil and gas ones and that of power engineering.

He was immediately accused by some Russian statesmen of undermining Russian sovereignty.

Ivan Silayev, as Russian prime minister, then held a meeting of his cabinet where he had to agree that Russian decisions are supreme to the federal ones.

Local observers believe that the conflict has subsided but is not over yet. Everybody is expecting Boris Yeltsin's reaction to the drama of his prime minister who has been accused of "betraying the interests of Russia". Silayev has devotedly served those interests side by side with Yeltsin for fifteen months and the three days and nights of the foiled August coup.

Democratic Communists Submit Economic Appeal

LD2609180691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Sep 91

[From the "TV Inform" program]

[Text] The leadership of the Democratic Party of the Communists of Russia which has turned into the Free Russia Party [Partiya Svobodnoy Rossii] has made an appeal to the people, the legislators, and the bodies of executive authority in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic. The appeal contains specific proposals about urgent actions directed toward overcoming the crisis. In particular, it proposes that the new state established on the territory of the former USSR should form a currency union and act jointly to reform the financial system. All financial arrangements with new states outside the interrepublican agreement should be on a hard currency basis, consistent with world prices.

The establishing of a legislative basis for the transition to market relations should be increased. An effective system to reprsent and defend the interests of the Russian-speaking populations living outside Russia needs to be set in motion, and reforms of the legislative and executive authority need to be carried out with the aim of increasing their capabilities in a crisis situation.

Minister Notes Work Continues in Penal Colonies

OW2609151291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Interior Minister Andrey Dunayev has disclosed the number of prisoners in penal labour colonies engaged in felling timber—260,000. He pledged to phase out the practice of forced labour, but only gradually. He referred, for instance, to a request by the Lipetsk Regional Council made only yesterday, Wednesday, for timber produced in penal colonies.

Dunayev said he had no intention to change the principal structure of the Interior Department, except the system of penal colonies which needs a drastic overhaul.

He named among his priorities raising the level of solving crimes (which now stands at 44), improving working conditions for his staff which is short of 41,000 men throughout the Russian Federation according to last month's figures, and also preventing violence in Russia's "hot spots"—on the border between Chechen-Ingushetia and in Daghestan.

Dunayev revealed that the level of crime has risen by 21.5 this year, with the number of criminal cases up 28.1.

Local Affairs

Murashev Appointed to Moscow Interior Post

OW2609145391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Federation's Interior Minister Dunayev has finally appointed a leader of the Democratic Russia Movement—Arkadiy Murashev—chief of Moscow's Interior Department as a man capable "of rallying public effort" for better law and order in the city. Dunayev said that at a press-conference in Moscow, Thursday.

Vyacheslav Comissarov appointed for the post earlier has been taken off the department's staff together with the other senior militia officers under the ruling by Russia's Council of Ministers. Dunayev has offered Comissarov the post of his deputy responsible for criminal investigations. As announced by Dunayev, Comissarov has accepted.

The issue over who was to head Moscow's militia was a bone of contention between the city's council and mayor's office. The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] interior minister explains his support for the mayor's appointment in this way, "How can I otherwise go on cooperating with the mayor of Moscow?" He pointed out that Moscow's militia is 6,000 men understaffed as of this month due to poor solution of social problems in the Interior Department.

A. Dunayev expressed an opinion that Moscow's mayor is entitled to forming his own team and should be authorized to appoint the interior chief.

Under the present law on Soviet militia Murashev's appointment is to be approved by the Moscow council.

Parliament Debates Moscow, City Hall Conflict

PM2609114991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 91 Union Edition pp 1, 3

[Report by parliamentary correspondents I. Yelistratov and G. Shipitko: "Russian Parliament Talking About 'Measures,' the Mayor, and What To Do Next"]

[Text] The tension reigning in the hall of sessions at the beginning of the first day of the sitting subsided after the question "On the problem of mutual relations between the Moscow City Soviet and City Hall" was included on

the agenda. In expectation of an opportunity of "shaming" G. Popov for his excessively bold cadre and economic activity, deputies listened to two reports delivered by O. Lobov, deputy chairman of the Russian Council of Ministers, and I. Lazarev, finance minister.

It was not without reason that the two reports appeared side by side on the agenda because without finance there is no economy, and vice versa. Especially since in both the former and the latter the picture is quite bleak.

The process of declining production and falling national income is continuing, the destruction of economic ties has not been halted, and if the financial and economic imbalance has not yet reached danger point it has at least not stopped its slide toward it. The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Central Bank budget debt is increasing.

While per capita money incomes are rising the living standard is falling. In the past eight months, Russians consumed 9 percent less meat and 20 percent less milk. At the same time the level of consumption of potatoes and bread rose.

In such a situation parliamentarians naturally wanted to hear from the speakers a list of concrete measures enabling the slide toward economic failure to be halted. Unfortunately, both speakers erred on the side of excessive rhetoric, the brash rhetoric of proposed measures, furthermore, and this aroused keen criticism of the activity both of the Council of Ministers and the Finance Ministry. There was considerable justification for the criticism, too. Previously, just a month ago, all such attacks were "parried" in the direction of Premier Pavlov, the military-industrial complex, the kolkhoz general Starodubtsev, and the infamous "center." Since 21 August the center has collapsed in a storm of political upheavals and now, apparently, reforms have to proceed at vast speed.

But as Deputies L. Gurevich and D. Vasilyev noted, it seems that all the efforts of the Russian parliament are going into the building of new management structures—like the former Union monsters but with different titles (republic) and very modern names (concern, joint-stock company). Is this not that same new bureaucracy, whose advent R. Khasbulatov warned about at the beginning of the session, that is being born right before parliament's eyes? Many people were alarmed by the use of patently "nonmarket terminology" in O. Lobov's report: "pay attention" and "resolve material and technical supply questions." Even the second half of this report, where the government promised all kinds of help to the new market structures did not suit deputies (one of them reasonably noted that you do not even need to help the businessman, just do not get in his way).

By all accounts, deputies intend seriously getting to grips with the government and it would be good if this did not seem like the "carpeting" of government members but rather developed into a well-coordinated and civilized parliamentary process involving competent independent experts. It makes sense to look at the difficulties which the new-born management structures are encountering. After all, they have to deal with constantly changing political-economic guidelines—they were expecting the signing of the Novo-Ogarevo agreement, during the days of the putsch they met to work in the Sverdlovsk "bunker," and now it is unclear whether the Russians will have a longed-for Union "economic space" or not. Judging by reports from the Ukrainian parliament, for example, this space may not exist at all.

In brief, the situation is difficult. It is aggravated by the confrontation which has appeared between parliamentary and presidential power. The sorting out of the "Moscow City Soviet versus City Hall" conflict almost turned into a trial run of the sort of spectacle that awaited the Russian president had he turned up in the hall of sessions today.

Nor did Mayor Popov of Moscow appear here, either, thus allowing the Russian parliament to decide the fate of the 15 hunger-striking deputies and Major General of Militia V. Komissarov. The collision which occurred over Komissarov's appointment to the post of chief of the Moscow Internal Affairs Main Administration is by no means as simple as it may appear at first glance. It is a complex mixture of the ambitions of the sides, original views of legislative and executive power, the lack of the skills of constructive collaboration among administrative structures at various levels, and—it must be admitted—the unduly hysterical behavior of people invested with deputies' powers. The stance "I shall starve to death to change a decision I do not like!" is more redolent of the Bolshevik "I shall not waive principles!" than civilized parliamentary behavior. Nevertheless, the Russian parliament asked the Russian president to fulfill the decision of the representative organ on the appointment of Komissarov to the post and give the personnel a leader. Only then, deputies said, can the question of his dismissal be resolved, too. The main thing is that it is all done according to the law.

Deputies managed to discuss eight points in the draft Supreme Soviet resolution on the social and economic situation in the RSFSR before midday on 20 September. Despite the severe wording in the draft, many deputies called for even more ruthless statements regarding the government—up to and including an expression of no confidence. Deputy Osminkin brought the debates to an end when he proposed that the work of the RSFSR Council of Ministers on the stabilization of the economy and the transition to market relations be deemed unsatisfactory. They also adopted Deputy Fedorenko's amendment, whereby the RSFSR president must submit a state program on the stabilization of the economy and the transition to market relations by 1 November.

Having severely criticized the government for the excesses of its programs, not one of which has been fulfilled (and the Supreme Soviet is also to blame there),

the deputies decided to create another one for whose outcome the president may be held personally responsible.

Moscow Militia Chief Appointment Causes Confusion

LD2609114491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Unatributed commentary]

[Text] Who is to head the Moscow militia? Will it be General Komissarov or Commissar Murashov? There have been various answers to this question in the course of a single day. On the morning of 25 September, Vyacheslav Komissarov expounded his concept of leadership for the Moscow militia to journalists at a briefing. Then, late that evening, Arkadiy Murashov, a qualified thermo- physicist and people's deputy, was introduced to the staff at Petrovka-38. The inauguration of the new head of the Moscow militia begins on 26 September. It has become known, from sources close to the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Ministry of Internal Affairs leadership, that Komissarov may be offered the position of Russian deputy minister of Internal Affairs, although, as noted by Aleksandr Shvetsov, head of the Russian Ministry's Personnel Department, the situation is changing rapidly. For example, on 24 September, all there was was the decree appointing General Komissarov as head. The following day the entire leadership of the Moscow Main Directorate was laid off and an order made Murashov chief, TASS reports. However, many Mossovet deputies regard this as unconstitutional. Alla Podelinskaya, aide to Deputy Litenkov, reports that at the Main Internal Affairs Directorate [GUVD] of the Moscow Executive Committee yesterday the Moscow mayor and acting RSFSR minister of Internal Affairs once again presented the staff with a new head, 34-year-old physicist Arkadiy Murashov, in violation of the law and constitution since resolutions of a session of the Mossovet and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet were ignored, a fact that met with a highly negative reaction from most of those present. At the same time, one of the Mossovet deputies hampered the law and prevented the new head from entering the office of the GUVD leader on the basis of Article 25 of the Law on the Status of RSFSR People's Deputies.

After reading this information, I do not know about you, listeners, but I do not understand who in the end is in charge of the capital's Main Internal Affairs Directorate. This, I think, alarms many people as well as myself since, as they say, criminals do not sleep.

President's Decree Subordinates Moscow KGB

LD2609215291 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 26 Sep 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The USSR president's decree: With a view to improving the operational efficiency of the work of the state security bodies, the administration of the USSR KGB in the city of Moscow and Moscow Oblast is to be subordinated to the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] KGB, and from now on will be called "The City of Moscow and Moscow Oblast Directorate of the RSFSR KGB."

[Signed] USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Moscow Trade Outlets To Be Privatized

PM2609124191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Report by A. Gerasimov, Yu. Prokofyev, identified by caption; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Gerasimov] According to unconfirmed information, members of the present Moscow Government and their families shop in ordinary Moscow stores. It is evidently for this reason that the capital's leadership is speeding up the destatization and privatization of trade outlets. At the government's session today it was announced that 12 stores would be sold at the first auction scheduled for 25 September this year. Inventory only, minus the trade premises is to be sold. The problem is that for the time being there is no procedure yet for the valuation of floorspace.

And so the entrepreneurs who decide to enter into this deal will have to rent the roof over their heads.

In the next two years around 400 Moscow stores with up to 100 meters of floorspace and a staff not exceeding 25 people are to pass into private ownership. Larger stores will become joint-stock companies or partnerships.

In the past this new social initiative and concern for the working people would probably have evoked enthusiasm. Today it is no particular cause for joy. This is because we already have some experience of free enterprise, somewhat unbridled enterprise, it is true.

[Gerasimov speaking to camera] It is up to people, citizens of a superpower who are still idly inspecting empty store shelves in the desire to feed and clothe their mortal bodies, to decide whether private or state trade is better.

Khasbulatov Remarks on Dagestan Agreement Cited

LD2609201391 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0422 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Correspondent Dekabr Beybetov reports from Dagestan with recorded comments by Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) Supreme Soviet acting Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] I am going to talk about the peacemaking role played by the trip to the state of emergency zone by a Russian delegation headed by Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov, acting Chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet. During this trip a protocol

was signed by a conciliation commission incorporating all sides, Russia and the Dagestan government, representatives of the Chechen-Akkintsy, representatives of the Avars. This is not a long document—two pages with nine points—but it is quite likely a momentous decision.

I would like you to hear what was said by Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov following the signing, after almost nine hours spent sitting down compiling this document, after the debates and so on. Of course, every point and every word, every comma in this document was keenly dissected by the sides. Please take a minute or two to hear what he said to the journalists after the signing, and then I will ask you to draw your own conclusions.

[Khasbulatov] The obligations which have been arranged are very serious, and the start is an obligation on the part of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation and the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation which, together with the Supreme Soviet and government of the Republic of Dagestan, will monitor and guarantee implementation of the decisions of the third Congress of People's Deputies of Dagestan and the governmental program of Dagestan on rehabilitation of the repressed people.

Second, here the RSFSR Supreme Soviet is requiring that a legislative committee issue a decision outlining the procedure for application of the articles of the Law on taking account of the opinion of the residents of the villages on the restoration of the historic names of the villages and restoring the former borders of the rayon. Having received official notification from the Supreme Soviet of Russia, the Supreme Soviet of Dagestan will consider the issue of renaming them and of the restoration of Aukhi Rayon and these villages with the borders of 23 February 1944, taking account of the fact that this decision comes into force along with implementation of the government's program. The government's program is sufficiently well-grounded and laid out.

The third aspect: The RSFSR Supreme Soviet will, in its current session, be adopting a law on rehabilitation of deported peoples and their representatives. All these three points provide sufficient guarantees that nobody will suffer as a result of the application and introduction of the law on rehabilitation. [passage omitted]

People Want Tatarstan President To Step Down

OW2609222791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] About 70 percent of the people of Almetievsk, an oil centre in Tatarstan, want the republican President Mintimer Shaimiyev to step down. A mere 12.8 percent support him. 17.7 percent made no comment. The results of the opinion poll were made public in Almetievsk on September 26.

No more than 17 percent of the polled want Tatarstan's secession from Russia. Among the Tatars the figure is higher—31 percent.

Meanwhile, Afghan war veterans have picketed Almetievsk's central square for a month already. They say that President Shaimiyev must go because he supported the emergency committee during last month's abortive coup.

Former Riga OMON Staffers Operate in Tyumen

PM2709092191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by Yuriy Perepletkin under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Riga OMON Operating in Tyumen"]

[Text] Tyumen—The oblast soviet presidium has examined the question of the working methods of staffers of the Riga Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON] who were redeployed to Tyumen and drafted into local Internal Affairs Administration [UVD] structures.

These men, in their own words, were tired of the politics in which they had been embroiled and wanted to concentrate in Siberia on their purely professional job of protecting public order. The last thing that they wanted was for an artificial fuss to be created around their actions.

But that is not how it turned out. The very first actions—for example, in the Prometey restuarant where, according to general opinion, mafiosi and shady dealers often congregate—caused a lot of gossip, including in the mass media. Rumors abounded: A cooperative member had been beaten up, foreigners had been insulted, and city soviet deputies had been searched. However, there were even more assessments of a different type: Their actions are tough but proper, in complete accordance with their rights, and very effective.

Yes, the statistics are impressive. In a short period these proficient guardians of law and order neutralized a large number of violators of the law, confiscating drugs, bladed weapons, and firearms, and cracked a number of auto thefts and other crimes.

Having taken note of the statements of UVD leaders, the oblast soviet presidium recommended that every warning of that staffers of the former OMON have exceeded their powers be promptly and thoroughly investigated.

Controlled Blast Eliminates Ufa Refinery Hazard

PM2609124591 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Report by M. Gafurov and R. Amirkhanov; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] According to our information, the emergency situation at the Ufa oil refinery has been eliminated. Let me recall, that a week ago a 150-meter

high ferro-concrete chimney at one of the production units of this complex threatened to collapse.

[Gafurov] Allow me to clarify. This is a new production unit. It has been in operation for less than 10 years. So that the cause of the trouble was not wear and tear, as some journalists have reported, but rather the low quality of construction and assembly work. A crack appeared at a height of 120 meters. And the upper section of the chimney, weighing some 700 tonnes, tilted and threatened to collapse on the complex. If it had fallen of its own accord, it could have put the whole plant out of operation for more than a year. Therefore it was decided to destroy it by means of a controlled explosion.

[Gafurov to camera] The final preparations for the explosion are under way. Take a look at the chimney. Seven hundred tonnes of concrete have been reduced to dust. This is highly durable ferroconcrete!

[S.M. Kudinov, chief of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic State Committee for Emergency Situations operational department, identified by caption] An excellent job! We did not doubt the ability of our experts. They all deserve a pat on the back for this work.

[Gafurov] What next?

[Kudinov] What next? We will restore part of the chimney. According to preliminary calculations the present height is sufficient for a certain capacity.

[Gafurov] How much time will be needed to put this complex back into operation.

[Kudinov] A matter of days, I believe, a couple of weeks as a maximum.

[Gafurov] And these are the guys who prepared and carried out this unique operation.

External Affairs

Khasbulatov Receives Icelandic Delegation

LD2709040191 Moscow TASS in English 2101 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Acting Chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov met a delegation from Iceland today to discuss the development of cooperation, including that in the use of geothermal energy sources, fishery and tourism.

The delegation, headed by parliament member and former Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannsson, includes parliament members and representatives of the business community.

An early signing of an agreement on trade and economic cooperation will open up wide possibilities for the development of bilateral relations, in the opinion of participants in the meeting.

Ukraine

Independent 'Communist Island of Crimea' Sought

LD2709034191 Moscow TASS in English 1851 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—Communist structures, which have been controlling the Crimea for decades and continue to preserve substantial positions, are trying to make the Ukraine and Russia clash, and defame Russian democrats in order to create a "communist island of Crimea" independent from both republics, the "Democratic Crimea" movement believes.

The movement considers this a major threat of the present.

The Democratic Crimea unites a deputy group of the same name of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, as well as deputies from the Social-Democratic Party and the Party of Democratic Revival of the Ukraine.

A situation has shaped in the Crimean Autonomous Republic, which is part of the Ukraine, that, if no urgent measures are taken, threatens to turn the peninsula into a hotbed, even worse than that in Nagorno-Karabakh or the Dnestr region, Yuriy Komov, co-chairman of the "Democratic Crimea" deputy group and member of the Crimean Supreme Soviet Presidium, told TASS.

Describing the current situation in the Crimean region, the majority of whose population is Russians and Ukrainians, Komov said that the Russian-language population, dissatisfied with forced Ukrainization done by functionaries, demands to hold a referendum on the cancellation of the 1954 act on passing the Crimea from Russia to the Ukraine.

Such a referendum requires only 200,000 signatures and would inevitably lead to the sharpening of relations between the two major Slavic republics, their legislatures and democratic movements, and will put the Russian president in a most difficult position, he believes.

Under these conditions, the totalitarian structures remaining in the Crimea which are not satisfied with democratic transformations both in Russia and the Ukraine, began to call for the creation of an independent Crimean republic, which would allegedly "help escape the conflict between the Ukraine and Russia".

These are the aims of the "Movement of January 20", the idea of whose creation was put forward by the Crimean PRAVDA newspaper, Komov said.

In his words, this republic will be "the communist island of Crimea", where totalitarian structures will preserve their power.

In this connection, the "Democratic Crimea" movement made a statement, demanding that "direct elections of heads of local executive authorities be held and all structures of the authorities be crucially changes".

The Supreme Soviet of the Crimean Autonomous Republic should lay down its powers, since its presidium actually supported the emergency committee during the coup.

The movement calls on the Ukrainian legislature and government to "take specific measures to create a federal republic of the Ukraine, where each land, including the Crimea, will have a possibility tm independently determine its internal policy".

"In case these proposals are rejected by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and government, we reserve the right to demand the cancellation of the 1954 act on passing the Crimea to the Ukraine and fight for the unification with the democratic federal Russia through a referendum," the statement says.

"The Crimea should not become the apple of discord for Slavic people and a new hotbed, and we want both Ukrainian and Russian democrats to understand this," Komov added.

In other words, totalitarian forces will win, he believes.

Kravchuk Meets With Officials in U.S., Canada

U.S. Economic Relations Possible

LD2609201291 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Relations between the United States and the Ukraine are acquiring a new specific content, although it is too early to talk about official recognition of Ukrainian independence by the United States—that is how local commentators assessed the results of the meeting in the White House between President George Bush and Chairman Leonid Kravchuk. The current discussion is the continuation of the dialogue between the United States and Ukraine that began on 1 August during the U.S. President's visit to Kiev.

The meeting lasted for almost an hour. Afterward, the Ukrainian Parliament chairman said the two sides decided to continue discussion son specific trends with regard to possible cooperation in the economic, scientific-technical, cultural, and humanitarian spheres, but this time on an expert level. According to Leonid Kravchuk, specific proposals will be outlined at this meeting and then submitted to the President, after which specific decisions will be made. Most of all, the Ukraine is interested in obtaining credits from the United States, assistance in the agricultural sphere, and in holding discussions. All these questions we dealt with at the meeting. The questions referred to direct cooperation, the Ukraine's economic interests, investments and credits, and everything that is needed to help the economy.

At the meeting the Ukrainian Parliament chairman fully informed the U.S. President on the situation in the Ukraine, on the process of creating an independent Ukrainian state, on ensuring democracy, glasnost, and pluralism, and on measures to create legal guarantees for investments by western partners into the republic's economy. The Ukrainian side expressed a particular interest in comprehensive cooperation with the United States. Leonid Kravchuk thanked the U.S. Government and the people for the charitable assistance in softening the consequences of the Chernobyl breakdown. He invited the U.S. President for an official visit to the Ukraine at a time most suitable for him. The invitation was graciously accepted.

Answering journalists' questions, Leonid Kravchuk said that he is confident that the referendum on the independence of the Ukraine, to be held on 1 December, will produce positive results.

The U.S. President showed special interest in the Ukraine's position on nuclear weapons. Our position is that the Ukraine must be a non-nuclear state. It is ready to take part in all treaties and agreements concerning nuclear arms, Kravchuk said. The Ukraine intends to assist the speediest possible ratification of the nuclear arms treaties concluded between the United Stats and the USSR. The Ukraine favors a single central control over nuclear arms in order to prevent the appearance of new nuclear powers on the map of the world. The Ukraine opposes the transportation of nuclear weapons from one republic to another.

Leonid Kravchuk also said that while discussing the question of relations between the center and republics, the Ukrainian side stated that at present only economic relations are possible. The problem of a political union is a quite different matter.

Joint Declaration With Canada

OW2609223491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1916 GMT 26 Sep 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The President of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, Leonid Kravchuk, recently visited Canada and is now in the United States at the invitation of President Bush. He will also address the U.N. Security Council.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has informed "Diplomatic Panorama" [DP] that a joint declaration on relations between Canada and the Ukraine has been signed in Ottawa. The declaration states that "in defining the character and form of future relations between Canada and the Ukraine both sides will respect the free and democratically expressed choice of the Ukrainian people and be guided by the principles of international law" and also by the terms of the U.N. Charter, the final declaration of the Conference on Peace and Cooperation in Europe and its subsequent documents and by the Paris Charter for a new Europe.

During the negotiations between Mr. Kravchuk and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, the possibility of establishing diplomatic and consular relations between the Ukraine and Canada was discussed. The Canadian side linked this question to the referendum on Ukrainian independence, due to take place on 1st December, 1991. This is the position held by other states as well as Canada. The President of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet expressed his profound conviction that the result of the referendum will be positive. For its part the Canadian side stressed that it would be among the first to recognize Ukrainian independence.

The prospects for direct economic contacts between the two sides, which have been met "with understanding" by the Canadian business community, were also discussed during the president's visit. The position of the Ukrainian diaspora which plays "a major role in the Canadian economy and in Canadian politics" is of particular importance. The Canadian Ukrainians have promised to give economic cooperation with Kiev "the green light".

A representative of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry told "DP" that there had been "an extremely warm and touching meeting" with representatives of the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada. He noted that in the past "relations with the Canadian diaspora (had been) very varied, but now the situation has changed". There was general agreement at the meeting that "all should join forces to help the Ukraine".

On Wednesday Mr. Kravchuk had a meeting with the American President, George Bush, lasting over an hour. Both sides said that the meeting was an "an extremely important step towards mutual understanding between the USA and the Ukraine". Like Canada, the United States let it be known that it would be ready to establish and develop diplomatic relations with the Ukraine depending upon the results of the December referendum. "A colossal number" of meetings with congressmen are planned for Mr. Kravchuk's visit as well as meetings with representatives of American business and science and visits to Boston and Chicago.

In response to questions about the possibility of concrete political and economic agreements during Kravchuk's visit to North America, the Ukrainian diplomat said that "of course, we are keen to invest the developing relations with real content", primarily in the economic sphere. "These aims are perfectly realizable", he said.

He confirmed that the question of nuclear weapons had been touched upon during talks with President Bush. The Americans expressed their concern that "this issue be under the tightest control". The Foreign Ministry official said that the Ukrainian position could not be open to misinterpretation. The Declaration of Ukrainian

Independence of 16th July, 1990 clearly states that the Ukraine will be a neutral, non-nuclear state.

As far as the issue of nuclear weapons on Ukrainian territory is concerned, the Ukrainian diplomat stated that this was "a question that had to be solved and that all decisions should be taken in a coordinated manner". In any case, he remarked, the Ukraine "is not interested in joining the group of nuclear states".

Intricacies of Grain Procurement Issue Viewed

PM2609124791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Correspondent V. Filippov article: "Ukrainian Government Tightens Control Over Grain Procurement"]

[Text] Ukrainian families have lost the chance of preparing their favorite national dishes—savory and sweet dumplings. The republic's Council of Ministers has suspended retail sales of flour to the population. What is more, a quota is being introduced: no more than two loaves of bread and two kilograms of groats per customer.

The former granary of the former USSR is threatened with a grain shortage. In order to feed the Ukraine's 52 million strong population, state reserves need to procure 17 million tonnes of grain, yet peasants have sold only 10 million tonnes to the state. References to a poor harvest are only acceptable for some regions of the republic. Despite the drought in southern oblasts and the slushy conditions in the west, the gross grain harvest is such that the Ukraine is guaranteed a life free of poverty. Why then are peasants refusing to supply the state granaries with grain?

Ahead of the harvest the Cabinet of Ministers considerably raised grain purchase prices. However, this carrot did not please the peasants very much. Disregarding the "grain grower's first commandment," they began holding back the new harvest's grain. It reached the point where Prime Minister V. Fokin, speaking on republic television at the beginning of August, called those who were failing to meet grain delivery targets "antiheros" who are impeding the assertion of Ukrainian sovereignty.

Not, however, relying too much on the effectiveness of this moral-political incentive, the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium issued a special degree tightening up responsibility for careless storage of grain. Now if grain is spoilt the culprit is threatened with up to three years' imprisonment. But the stick has not encouraged grain procurement very much either. For instance, the Crimea's "Perevalnyy" and "Gurzufskiy" Sovkhozes [state farms] decided to hide the best grain in empty farm buildings. While in Zaporozhye Oblast's Kuybyshevskiy Rayon prosecutors found thousands of tonnes of grain right on the threshing floors that was clearly not destined to be carted off to the silos.

Specialists estimate that there are at least 25 million tonnes of grain on the republic's farms. The Cabinet of Ministers recently asked oblispolkom [oblast soviet executive committee] leaders to meet grain sale targets within the shortest possible time. For oblasts that fail to meet this target grain deliveries from state reserves will be reduced by the same amount as that which the oblast itself failed to deliver to the state. It is thought that this administrative pressure will result in the shortage of state resources being reduced to 3 million tonnes. And the government intends to buy this 3 million tonne shortfall abroad.

But here is the rub: The sovereign Ukraine does not have its own petrodollars, and its government has only 2.3 million rubles worth of foreign currency in its account. Enterprises and organizations, however, have plenty of this "hard" money. And the republic's leadership has decided to dip its hand into their pocket.

"We intend," L. Kravchuk said 9 September, "to ask these collectives' working people on behalf of the Supreme Soviet, the Cabinet of Ministers, and, consequently, the whole people to loan us 220-230 million rubles worth of foreign currency in order to salvage the situation and ensure that we aren't reduced to the disgraceful situation where the former union's granary transfers to ration cards for bread."

But a few days later the Cabinet of Ministers told oblast soviets themselves to take hard currency from their enterprises (issue no. 219 of IZVESTIYA described how people in Odessa responded to this). So, the government is shrugging off responsibility for reimbursing the loan onto the local soviets, whose hard-currency potential will render them perpetual debtors.

Back at the beginning of the harvest the government took strict control of the republic's consumer market. A ban was imposed on exports of food outside the republic and industrial goods in heightened demand. It has been decided to abolish the single-use coupons that residents of the Ukraine were issued for up to 70 percent of their wages and acted as a purchase permit, but which provided the internal market with little protection against itinerant businessmen. Reusable coupons will be introduced in return—they are already being printed in Paris by order of the Ukrainian National Bank. This quasi-currency will be paid out with wages as a proportion of these wages backed up by goods. It has been given the role of a kind of bridge toward introducing a national currency.

It is not hard to see that all these steps have severely complicated direct ties between producers in the Ukraine and other sovereign states that were former union republics. Last year Ukrainian peasants traded the surplus of their very rich harvest on the free market for the first time. They realized that they can do quite well without the rigid system of centralized distribution of material and technical benefits. But the peasants have been made suspicious by the current action taken by the

authorities, which, while promising freedom, are reinforcing the administrative shackles. Their secreting the grain away has been dictated by a natural desire to secure their future in a state where the peasant's total independence from the center is retained. By decision of the Cabinet of Ministers a minimum level has been set for state order deliveries in 1992 of at least 70 percent of the mean annual indicator in the period 1986-1990. Farms are free to dispose of their remaining produce themselves, but prices for this output (note!) will also be fixed by the Cabinet of Ministers.

Any violation of freedom, however good the intentions are, is inevitably accompanied by mistrust of the person who encroached on this freedom. Sociologists attest that in the Ukraine today just one percent of voters trust the soviets of people's deputies. Supreme Soviet Chairman Kravchuk's popularity rating has dropped appreciably—moreover, this happened in the southern Ukraine where Leonid Makarovich was considered an unopposed leader. Here are the figures from a poll of Berdyansk residents: The number of people wanting Kravchuk as president of the Ukraine dropped during August from 53 to 27 percent. On the other hand trust in RUKH's presidential candidate, V. Chornovil, rose (from 22 to 25 percent).

The grain that has been stockpiled in state reserves so far is only enough to last until Christmas. And if it does not prove possible to make it up to the necessary minimum there will be interruptions in bread supplies in the winter and dissatisfaction with the authorities will spill out onto the squares. That is why in the Ukraine today the question of grain sounds like the question of power.

Retail Flour Sales Suspended

PM2609131791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Correspondent V. Lyaskalo and V. Sulima report from the Ukraine; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Because of the catastrophic grain procurement situation in the Ukraine, retail sales of flour to the population have been suspended.

[Lyaskalo] [caption on video reads: 17.21 hours, 29 August 1991] While the Ukrainian Government is energetically trying to find hard currency to purchase 5 million tonnes of feed grain abroad, around 25 million tonnes of grain remain on the republic farms' threshing floors and granaries. So far, farmers have sold to the state only 9.5 million tonnes of grain of the 17 million tonnes stipulated by the state order.

This is because at the present time grain is the gold equivalent in any barter deal. Alas, not all farmers are able or know how to store this precious grain at home on the farm. Who is likely to exchange pipes or shingles for these 320 tonnes of grain, for example, which has germinated in the rain on the threshing floor in Chabany village in Kmelnitskiy Oblast?

The Ukraine has passed a strict decree on criminal liability for negligent storage of grain. In order to hide their criminal negligence, certain leaders are burying their spoiled grain. Some farmers believe that it is safest to burn the rotting bales of grain together with the straw. According to a briefing at the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs, dozens of criminal charges have already been brought in this connection. The worst offenders face prison sentences.

Independent Paper To Cease Ukrainian Edition

LD2609223991 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Excerpts] The independent paper KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA will now be published only in Russian. [passage omitted] In its address to readers, an editorial explains that economic reasons compelled the paper to terminate the Ukrainian language edition. As there were only 135 subscribers for the Ukrainian edition, the paper lost over 200,000 rubles a year.

Page 3 of yesterday's KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA shows the second, probably more important, reason for the decision. Under the headline "You Wanted To Say Something," Yuriy Meshkov, people's deputy of the Crimean Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] Soviet, calls on all deputies to sign with him a demand on the need to hold an extraordinary session of the Crimean ASSR Supreme Soviet not later than October. The main issue to be discussed, Meshkov suggests, is a Crimean referendum on abolishing the 1954 act on transferring the Crimea from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic to the Ukraine.

Expressing the anti-Ukrainian moods of a part of the Crimean population, KRYMSKAYA PRAVDA conducts corresponding propaganda in every issue. The views of Crimean Ukrainians and Tartars and representatives of other nationalities are not printed by this so-called independent newspaper.

Moldova

Snegur Says Dnestr Situation 'Out of Control'

LD2609131191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1200 GMT 26 Sep 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] Speaking at the Moldova Supreme Soviet today, the republic's president, Mircha Snegur, said that the situation in the Dnestr Republic is getting out of control. He categorically rejected the demands of certain members of the Presidium to use force to bring order to the Dnestr Republic.

Appeals to Tiraspol for Calm

PM2609150591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Sep 91 First Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent N. Mulyar under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Moldovan President's Appeal"]

[Excerpt] Kishinev, 25 Sep—The sociopolitical situation in the Republic of Moldova remains complex. Women are continuing the blockade of the railroads.

A session of Tiraspol City Soviet has adopted a decision to transfer internal affairs organs workers to the jurisdiction of the so-called Dnestr Republic. The date for them to take the oath has been set.

Moldovan President M. Snegur has issued an appeal to employees of city and rayon internal affairs organs on the left bank of the Dnestr.

The population of the Republic of Moldova, the appeal states, is extremely concerned at the negative processes taking place in city and rayon police departments on the Left Bank, and is indignant at the illegal actions of separatist leaders aimed at dismembering the republic and splitting law-enforcement organs. The efforts of destructive forces to create parallel structures of law-enforcement organs do not meet with support either at the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] or at the Prosecutor's Office or at the USSR KGB.

The president urged police employees, particularly in the cities of Tiraspol and Bendery, not to yield to provocations and to be true to their oath and constitutional duty. He gave an assurance that he will take all measures to prevent a split within the MVD system and to protect its employees.

The Republic of Moldova, M. Snegur declared, is unified and indivisible. [passage omitted]

Blames Marakutse Supsov Chairman

OW2609221791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press bureau of the Moldovan Interior Ministry says the confrontation between the supporters of the Dnestr Republic and Moldovan police has continued. The personnel of the Dubossary police department and a special police force from Kishinev are in the local police building picketed by civilians.

President Mircha Snegur, of Moldova, told the republican parliament on Thursday [26 September] that the blame for the situation in the Dnestr area must be placed squarely on the "pseudo-chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the independent republic - Marakutse". "The people will put him on trial for treason", Snegur said.

Stresses Leader's Peaceful Efforts

AU2609215691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1922 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Chisinau [Kishinev], ROMPRES, 26/9/1991—The president of the Republic of Moldova, Mircha Snegur, had an interview with a group of directors of enterprises in Transdnestr, MOLDOVA-PRES news agency reports.

During the interview an analysis was made of the situation of the republic's economy which is seriously affected by the irresponsible acts of the destructive elements who blocked the railway at Tiraspol and Bendery. President Snegur said that only the republic's leadership had made efforts to alleviate the conflict by peaceful means.

Police, Dnestr Supporters Continue Confrontation

Popular Front Surrounds Police Station

OW2609135591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1015 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Last night the situation in Dubossary on the left bank of the Dnestr somewhat improved, though as IF [INTERFAX] was informed by the press center of the Dnestr River Valley Republic, late at night on Wednesday [25 September] big numbers of volunteers of the Moldavan Popular Front appeared in the city and cordoned off the city police station. There is a small unit of black berets from Kishinev inside the building.

Local workers' self-defence groups did not try to capture the building. However, according to IF's correspondent, some 4,000 people rallied all night demanding to place the local police under the jurisdiction of the Dnestr River Valley Republic.

The head of the press center of the local parliament Valeriy Litskay said most black berets have been withdrawn from the city. At 10:00 A.M. on Thursday [26 September] the black berets controlled a bridge across the Dnestr and some of the approaches to the city. Groups loyal to the local authorities were guarding key facilities in the city.

According to Litskay, last night the Dubossary police unit lost half of its men: Over 30 policemen took the side of the local authorities, while 15 more resigned.

Meanwhile reports from Tiraspol say that last night a self-defence group neutralized a task force of 8 former KGB officers. According to leaders of the Dnestr river valley, such groups were set up at the end of last month to find and arrest local deputies.

Policemen Insulted, People Injured

AU2609221491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1954 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Chisinau [Kishinev] ROMPRES, 26/9/1991—According to the statement the minister of the interior of the Republic of Moldova, Ion Kostas, made to the INFO-NOVA agency, the rayon police section in Dubossary continued picketing while refusing to go under the jurisdiction of Tiraspol authorities. About ten trucks came to Dubossary carrying militants from Tiraspol and Rybnitsa. Several thousands of persons kept asking the local police not to subordinate to the Internal Affairs Ministry of Moldova. Policemen were insulted, their cars were turned upside down and the rayon section was blocked. Firing weapons were used and injured people were reported, Mr. Kostas said.

OMON Units Not Yet Removed

LD2709015891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0004 GMT 27 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Dubossary (Republic of Moldova), 26 Sep (TASS)—The situation in Dubossary, where the conflict between the representatives of Moldova's republican authorities and supporters of the Dnestr Republic has been exacerbated in the last days, remains tense.

As a TASS correspondent was told at Moldova's Internal Affairs Ministry, the police are doing their best to prevent the expansion of the conflict. The city is blocked. People heading for the town to help the conflicting sides are not being allowed into town. At the same time, Aleksandr Parazhan, deputy chairman of the town soviet, stated that the police and civilians who arrive in the town continue to detain dozens of people in Dubossary, many of whom have been beaten up. He said that in compliance with an agreement with Moldova's leadership, town inhabitants have stopped picketing the local police department. However, a promise to withdraw OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] units from Dubossary, which was given to them, has not been fulfilled yet.

Supreme Soviet Rejects Election Postponement

PM2609142991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by Eduard Kondratov under "Direct Line" rubric: "Election in December"]

[Text] Kishinev—The first nationwide Moldovan presidential election will be held 8 December this year.

That was what the republic's Parliament decided after a very heated debate and a roll-call vote. The opposition's demands put forward by deputies representing the People's Front—that the date of the presidential election be postponed until next May—were rejected by the parliamentary majority which supports Moldova's incumbent president, Mircha Snegur.

Moldova's Snegur Receives Swiss, Italian Businessmen

AU2609122591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1128 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 26/9/1991—The president of the Republic of Moldova, Mircha Snegur, received a group of representatives of firms in Switzerland and Italy, on a working visit to Chisinau [Kishinev], reports MOLDOVA PRESS Agency.

Mr. Mircha Snegur mentioned that the Republic of Moldova was ready to cooperate with foreign firms in solving the economic problems his country is faced with. He is supportive of the foreign representatives' proposals and suggestions for collaboration in the agricultural and industrial field as they are of an actual interest to the Republic of Moldova.

Moldovan Parliamentarians Meet Officials in Bonn

AU2609145891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1231 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Chisinau [Kishinev], ROMPRES, 26/9/1991—Upon the initiative of the association of relations with foreign countries "Dacia", a delegation of the Republic of Moldova is in Germany where Moldova's days are [visit is] under way. For the first time in the two states' history Moldova's parliamentarians were received in Bonn at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany where they had an interview with Mr. Klaus Wenbert who heads the Department for the East. He was conveyed a message from the president of the Republic of Moldova, Mircha Snegur, as well as from the Moldovan parliamentarians for Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

The Moldovan delegation's visit to Germany continues, reports MOLDOVA PRESS.

Georgia

Latest Developments in Tbilisi Political Situation

PM2609175391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 91 Union Edition pp 1-2

[Report by B. Urigashvili: "Tbilisi: State of Emergency Remains in Force"]

[Text] Tbilisi, 26 Sep—Wednesday night, Thursday morning in Tbilisi passed relatively calmly, without serious incidents.

In the afternoon of 25 September Guram Absandze, deputy prime minister and minister of finance; Justice Minister Dzhoni Khetsurani; Sport and Tourism Minister Kakhi Asatiani; and Resan Kontselidze, chairman of the republic Union of Consumer Cooperation, arrived at opposition headquarters. Journalists decided that it was an official delegation, authorized by the president to continue talks. It turned out, however, that they had come as private persons on a peacemaking mission. In the words of an opposition spokesman, they promised to acquaint the authorities with the opposition's opinion. The Supreme Soviet Press Center and the president's press service denied this information. We were unable to contact directly any of those who had gone to the television [building].

Speaking on radio, Tbilisi Commandant Colonel Dzhemal Kutateladze informed inhabitants of the Georgian capital that patrolling is being introduced in the city. Passports must be presented to the patrol immediately upon demand. The civilian population is directed to hand over firearms within 24 hours under a guarantee of immunity. A special admission procedure is being introduced at installations of state importance. A separate clause in the commandant's order speaks of punishment according to the state of emergency laws for disseminating rumors and disinformation. Many journalists believe that this measure is directed against them.

Numerous official statements accuse the opposition guardsmen and the opposition as a whole of robberies and arbitrary actions. No incident, however, have been cited. Numerous attempts by journalists to discover just one incident of the theft of food from warehouses or stores by guardsmen have brought no results. The Georgian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] Press Center also possesses no information on this score.

A few words about the state of emergency regulations. I spent the entire night on the streets of the city and can testify: I noticed no patrols checking citizens on the streets.

Thirty-nine opposition deputies have come forward with a demand that an emergency session of the Supreme Soviet be convened. In their opinion, to settle the crisis peacefully it is essential to get the president's supporters who have come up from the provinces out of Tbilisi; to return national guard units to the base in Shavnabada until a Supreme Soviet decision is adopted on the status of this military formation; to give all interested parties access to television; and to free political prisoners.

Meanwhile, in response to the journalists' question as to why an emergency sitting of the session is not being convened, the president, who two days ago threatened to dissolve parliament, replied that this falls within the competence of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and its chairman. Supreme Soviet Chairman Akakiy Asatiani stated in his turn that he considers the convening of a session to be impossible in a situation in which the guns of the rebel guardsmen are leveled at the parliament.

However, to be absolutely honest it should be noted that the two previous sessions of parliament that were held on days of crisis were also not free from the influence of these same external factors. At that time large crowds of Gamsakhurdia's supporters surrounded the building where the session was being held in a tight noose of encirclement and threatened opposition deputies with physical reprisal...

According to information issuing from the opposition, at 0600 hours 26 September about 50 OMON [Special Purposes Militia Detachment] personnel attacked the guard base in Shavnabada. At the time there were six guardsmen at the base. As a result of the ensuing exchange of fire, four people were killed and one wounded. During the afternoon, however, the press service of the city's commandant stated that no clashes between the opposing sides had been recorded either in Tbilisi or in the suburbs. An attempt had been made to attack the president's residential home. This attempt had been thwarted, however, by the actions of security men and guards loyal to the president, the press center's statement says.

Arms Surrender Deadline Extended

AU2609175791 Paris AFP in English 1725 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Tbilisi, Georgia, Sept 26 (AFP) — Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia Thursday [26 September] extended by two hours the deadline he had set for the national guard to surrender its arms, his spokesman said here. Georgi Burjanadze told a press conference that the decision had been taken because numerous people had called in to the presidency asking to surrender their weapons. Burjanadze added that the Georgian leadership would not have to resort to force and he "did not foresee having to attack the television station" occupied by opposition demonstrators and some rebel national guard troops. He nevertheless warned that authorities would use "anti-terrorist methods similar to those employed in Europe".

At the television building, gas masks were being handed out by candlelight for fear of an attack during the night and tension was running high, an AFP reporter saw on the premises. Electrical power in the district had been cut. The rebel national guard forces had been ordered to

surrender their weapons by 6:00 p.m. local time (1400 GMT) Thursday. There was no sign Thursday of the joint units involving the police and national guard members loyal to Gamsakhurdia who were supposed to patrol the capital.

Several Georgian riot police officers were killed and a number of others injured when they attempted to seize a national guard base near Tbilisi, Georgian sources and the official Soviet TASS news agency reported Thursday. But a spokesman for the Tbilisi military command denied that any attack had been launched against the Shavnabada base outside the Georgian capital. "There were not, for a very good reason, any victims," the spokesman told AFP.

The head of the rebel national guard forces, Tengiz Kitovani, said that a hundred members of the Georgian Interior Ministry forces attacked the base around midnight but were forced to retreat after coming under fire from six national guard members. Two members of the interior ministry forces were killed and four wounded, Kitovani said, noting that there were no injuries among the guard forces.

This death toll was confirmed by a spokesman for Georgian television to AFP, while TASS said four members of the ministry forces were killed and "many" injured in the attack.

To add to the confusion over what exactly took place at Shavnabada, members of Kitovani's own entourage said there were only 30 attackers, and that only four were wounded in the fighting. TASS also reported that there were "chaotic shootings" in Tbilisi during the night, but quoted a spokesman for the city's military command as saying that the night was "relatively quiet."

Tbilisi has been under a state of emergency declared by President Zviad Gamsakhurdia since Wednesday. Asked what measures would be taken to implement the president's orders, an Interior Ministry spokesman said "all will be done according to the law." The majority of the national guard have defected from the president's control as well as part of the police force.

Those who stayed loyal to Gamsakhurdia nonetheless staged a small show of force Thursday on Rustaveli Avenue, the capital's main thoroughfare, where the parliament building is located. Some 300 uniformed members of the national guard, some armed with hunting rifles and automatic weapons and others unarmed, marched to the end of the avenue to the applause of around 500 of the president's supporters.

Kitovani's rebel forces, estimated at 3,500 men and which also included four armed vehicles and two anti-aircraft cannon, remained deployed around the television station Thursday and controlled the surrounding area.

Conflict Reaching 'Crisis Point'

LD2609214591 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Report over Video by Aleksandr Gurnov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpts] During the last 24 hours, war has been continuing in the country, or rather, in what remains of it. As was the case yesterday, the most alarming reports came from Nagorno-Karabakh, Georgia, Tajikistan, and the Dnestr republic. A chronology of the conflicts follows: [passage omitted]

In Georgia, the conflict between supporters and opponents of President Gamsakhurdia is obviously reaching crisis point. At 1800 Moscow time, time ran out for the ultimatum of Tbilisi's military commandant on opposition military units surrendering their weapons. However, the ultimatum has been extended by two hours.

The commandant confirmed the fact that overnight, Gamsakhurdia's house was fired at by two unknown people. But the opposition detachments have not surrendered their weapons, and are prepared for military action. Two cannons [as heard] have been brought to the television center for its defense. Motor traffic in the town has been blocked off in certain places. The storming of the television center by government forces is expected today.

Gamsakhurdia is threatening to introduce presidential rule. According to a report from the (IPRINDA) agency, however, the presidential aircraft is standing ready at the closed airport of Tbilisi. [passage omitted]

[Video shows Tbilisi; report over video clips showing rallies outside the Georgian Parliament building, then Gamsakhurdia waving to the crowd from a window]

60 National Guardsmen Killed

LD2709034991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0320 GMT 27 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondents Albert Kochetkov and Aleksandr Kharchenko]

[Text] Tbilisi, 27 Sep (TASS)—Tengis Kitovani, commander in chief of the Georgian National Guard, who had refused to submit to the Georgian president, made an urgent statement for the press early this morning. He stated that at least 60 young national guardsmen, who had just started their service, "died as a result of the attack carried out by commandos loyal to Zviad Gamsakhurdia" on the National Guard base in the settlement of Shavnabad, a suburb of the Georgian capital.

The dead guards had no weapons, Tengiz Kitovani told TASS correspondents. They remained in Shavnabad because they were not quite ready for their military service. There was only one six-man sentry detachment

armed with submachine guns and rifles with them. The attack took place between 0200 and 0300.

This is the beginning of the civil war, Eldar Shengelaya, a famous Soviet film director, stated to TASS correspondents. TASS correspondents witnessed national guardsmen, who guard the Tbilisi democratic opposition headquarters in the Gosteleradio building and who had been urgently woken up, being assembled with their weapons.

OMON Attack on Guards Denied

OW2609152791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press-centre of Tbilisi's commandant has denied reports that last night an OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] unit tried to capture the camp in Shavnabada near Tbilisi of national guards refusing to obey the Georgian President. In its statement the press centre also denies the allegation that strangers attacked the apartment of President Zviad Gamsakhurdia.

According to the commandant's press centre "no clashes occurred" last night in Tbilisi or its environs. The denial came after the opposition had spread information that 4 militiamen were killed in an OMON attack on the Shavnabada base. INTERFAX reports that last night was quiet in Tbilisi, with the opposed factions taking no aggressive actions. The emergency situation has little affected the city's daily life. No patrols promised by the commandant are seen in the streets, only a few vital facililties are under reinforced militia guard.

National guards loyal to the President—some 100 unarmed men—marched on Thursday down Rostaveli Square.

Meanwhile, the opposition and the supporters of the present government have both appointed rallies Thursday night.

A demand has been made known by 39 parliament deputies of convening an immediate parliament session.

National Guard Casualties Denied

LD2709103791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 0900 GMT 27 Sep 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Excerpts] Unfortunately the first item in the bulletin is about a drastic deterioration in the situation in Tbilisi. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, communications between the Moscow correspondents' post of the (IPRINDA AGENCY) and Tbilisi were cut off. At 0400 a report came in which said that Jemal Kutapiladze, the city's commandant, did in fact refute the reports by TASS correspondents. He stated that there were no casualties at the National Guard base in Shavnabada. One guardsman was detained but even he was allowed to return home. Kutapiladze called the statement by opposition representatives a manifestation of panic. Last night thousands of people gathered outside the building of the State Radio and Television department of Georgia to express their support for the opposition. The OMON commander, the republic's deputy minister of internal affairs, assured the opposition that he would not move armed people against those participating in the rally outside the TV center building. [Video shows foreign TV video clips of armored vehicles]

Prime Minister: Reconciliation Possible

LD2609202791 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1900 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Georgian Supreme Soviet Chairman Asatiani and Prime Minister Gugushvili issued a statement today in response to a proposal by the opposition on the stabilization of the situation in Tbilisi. They announced that reconciliation is possible. In their opinion, competent representatives should start talks without delay, overcome the split, and restore a normal rhythm to social life. The fate of the prisoners, on whose release the opposition insists, will be decided by the republic's procurator general, the statement says, and all questions connected with television will be decided by the prime minister.

Only in conditions of civic peace, the statement says, can the next session of the republic's Supreme Soviet take place. At that time its Presidium will elaborate proposals for its agenda, taking into account the demands of the parliamentary opposition.

Journalists Warned on Disinformation

LD2609153291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] From this morning Soviet and foreign correspondents who are not to the liking of the authorities can be caught like stray dogs in the capital of Georgia. The military commandant has warned in his special appeal that for the period of the state of emergency, those citizens who disseminate disinformation and rumors and who try to discredit the authorities will be punished.

Such a sad prospect awaits representatives of the world and Union media who work in Tbilisi during these heated days. One should compare the warning by the military commandant with the constant accusations of Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia addressed to journalists who are allegedly under the thumb of the KGB and the Kremlin.

Armenia

Supreme Soviet Chairman on Reason for Resignation

OW2609170591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1530 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Armenia's Supreme Soviet has accepted today, Sept. 26, the resignation by the Chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers Vazgen Manukyan who tended it yesterday. Explaining his reasons in parliament V. Manukyan said that previously he had favoured a moderate policy towards the centre. After the referendum of Sept 21 on the republic's independence he sees Armenia as an independent state which should not be involved in the processes going on in the centre.

"Since the republic's leadership holds a different opinion, I find it impossible to carry on as Chairman of the Council of Ministers", said V. Manukyan.

Residents Vote To Rename Second Largest City

OW2609140591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1015 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The second biggest city in Armenia—Leninakan—has been renamed Gyumri. According to the news agency SNARK, the majority of city residents voted for the change during a poll held last Saturday at the same time as the referendum on Armenian independence.

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov Meets Nazarbayev at Baku Airport

NC2709094791 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1950 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] President Nazarbayev, his wife, and the officials who accompanied them on their visit to Turkey made a brief stopover at Baku Airport on 25 September and were met by President Mutalibov, his wife, and several officials. The presidents of the two republics held friendly talks.

Social Democrats Prepared To Talk With Armenia

OW2609152091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of Azerbaijan's Social-Democratic Party, the republic's People's Deputy Araz Alizade submitted to the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet a draft letter to the UN Secretary General. The letter is to the effect that Azerbaijan is ready to meet Armenia over a negotiating table with UN mediation and would agree to introducing a UN force in the buffer zone.

Supreme Soviet Second Session To Convene 16 Oct

NC2709095791 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1950 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] The decision that the chairwoman of the Azerbaijan Republic Supreme Soviet has adopted on convening the legislature is as follows: The second session of the 12th convocation of the Azerbaijan Republic Supreme Soviet will open in Baku City on 16 October 1991.
El'mira Kafarova, chairwoman of the Azerbaijan Republic Supreme Soviet
Baku City; 25 September 1991

Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast

NKAO Chairman, Azerbaijani Leaders on Accord

LD2709100591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2322 GMT 26 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Stepanakert, 26 Sep (TASS)—The communique adopted in Zheleznovodsk on settling the Karabakh conflict—which was mediated by the presidents of Russia and Kazakhstan and signed by the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan—remains the focus of public attention in Nagorno-Karabakh. The text of the communique has been broadcast on local radio. Our TASS correspondent asked Leonard Petrosyan, chairman of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] Executive Committee and head of the Nagorno-Karabakh delegation, to comment on the document.

"The adopted communique cannot fully satisfy the population of Nagorno-Karabakh nor, indeed, those of Azerbaijan or Armenia," he said. "It will do, however, as an initial document in settling the conflict and arriving at a political solution to the Karabakh problem. It is the first step toward peace. It is possible that the situation will begin to stabilize if both sides observe the points in the document that has been adopted. As the Karabakh delegation promised at the talks, we will make every effort to see that the problem is resolved by peaceful means within the boundaries of reasonable compromise. In my view, Boris Yeltsin and Nursultan Nazarbayev are the guarantors of unconditional compliance with the accords that have been reached."

"If both sides comply with the document, it will be the most acceptable solution to date," believes Farrukh Guseynov, one of the Azerbaijani leaders of Nagorno-Karabakh and a member of the staff of the republican organizing committee for the NKAO. "We must stop the bloodshed and proceed to a situation in which the inhabitants of Karabakh—regardless of their nationality—enjoy the same rights and benefits. Since this is the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the laws of the USSR and Azerbaijan must be observed here and the sovereignty of the republic must not be infringed upon," stressed Farrukh Guseynov.

Meanwhile, authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh are awaiting the arrival of a group of observers from Russia and Kazakhstan. They are due to begin their work here on 1 October.

Armenian Attacks Intensify; Two Helicopters Hit

NC2709085691 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1950 GMT 25 Sep 91

[Text] The situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] remains tense. Evyaz Yusufly, our special correspondent in the region, has reported from Shusha that Militia Lieutenant Sardar Medet oglu Seferov, (?deputy chief) of the Shusha Rayon Internal Affairs Department Investigations Group, was fired on by armed Armenians near Stepanakert at 1330 today while traveling by car to perform his duties in Khodzhaly. Tragically, he was killed, and his driver was seriously wounded.

A vehicle belonging to a group of workers from Shusha's mechanized mobile group No. 43 was stoned near Askeran Castle while driving to work at 0800 on the same day. The driver of the vehicle was seriously wounded, and the vehicle itself overturned after being run off the road. Three workers were critically wounded, and the other passengers were taken to the hospital for treatment.

It is common knowledge that the Armenians have recently intensified their attacks on flying aircraft. Two Azerbaijani civil aviation organization helicopters were fired on when they flew over Khodzhaly today. Gorus Gasanov, deputy chairman of the Khodzhaly City Soviet, has reported that the two helicopters were hit and damaged. Both were forced to land at Agdam Airport.

Clashes Claim Azeri Militiaman; Several Injured

OW2609142991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1015 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday Armenians stoned and overturned a passenger bus in Askeran region, Nagorno-Karabakh. The Bakinski Rabochi paper reporting the incident says 15 people were injured, 6 of them taken to the hospital of Agdam.

According to the paper, fire from automatic weapons was opened at the team of investigators sent to the site by the Azerbaijani Procurator General. Two grenades were also thrown at it. As a result militia lieutenant Sardar Safarov was killed and three more Azerbaijani militiamen wounded.

Violence Flares in Stapanakert, Surrounding Area

Azerbaijani Helicopter Attacks

NC2709082091 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1500 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] On the evening of 25 September, two Azerbaijani Special Militia Detachment helicopters bombed several areas in Stepanakert and continued their attacks on (?two Armenian-inhabited) areas and on other villages in Askeranskiy. Later the same day the bombardment continued until 0300 in the morning, targeting four villages [words indistinct] and Stepanakert. Reports have indicated that two people were injured in Stepanakert. According to reports from Shaumyanovskiy, the Azerbaijani side carried out armed and [word indistinct] attacks on Gharachinar and Manashit villages this morning.

Azeri Militiamen Slain

LD2609190291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1800 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] An alarming report has come in from Stepanakert. Stepanakert and the town of Shusha were again subjected to rocket fire last night. According to the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Internal Affairs Directorate, buildings were destroyed; in Shusha one resident was killed and five injured.

This morning, according to the Askeran District Internal Affairs Directorate, a car in which two Azeri militiamen were traveling was fired upon near Askeran. They were both killed.

The situation remains extremely complex. Many people in Stepanakert do not think the tension will abate by 1 October, when a group of observers from Russia and Kazakhstan are due to arrive. They are supposed to monitor the fulfilment of the communique adopted in Zheleznovodsk.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Cited on Nagorno-Karabakh Mission

PM2609100191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 91 p 2

[Report by correspondent Ye. Dotsuk: "What President Nazarbayev Said at the Airport"]

[Text] N. Nazarbayev returned to Alma-Ata from Mineralnyye Vody at 0800 hours yesterday. We managed to get a brief interview on the outcome of the trip to Nagorno-Karabakh.

"There were around 80 hours of work during the trip to Nagorno-Karabakh. In Baku they told us all kinds of horror stories about Stepanakert, saying that we should not go there, that our safety was not assured, and that anything might happen. But how do you tackle the Karabakh problem without going to Stepanakert? It was by various means, but we got there.

"It was not until we got there that we realized how deep the wound was and how difficult the healing process would be. There were moments when I thought the mission would fail and an impasse loomed on many occasions. But somehow we kept the show on the road—Boris Nikolayevich and I, alternating in the chair, both believed that the opportunity must not be missed. Of course, we did take into account the different levels of democratization in Azerbaijan and in Armenia—that is also a problem. In Azerbaijan we talked for nearly 36 hours solid, not only with the republic's leaders, but also with the intelligentsia and representatives of unofficial movements and political parties—we heard everyone out. We worked through the night in Yerevan the day before yesterday. Our experts were seeking points of contact between the sides in all areas and removing confrontational elements. In Mineralnyye Vody fully 10 and one-half hours were spent at a session where everything was on the verge of breaking down. It was all so difficult. As you already know, we, the four republics, managed to sign a communique. The main elements in it are the ceasefire and the restoration of legal authority.

"...Both sides complained that the news was not objective. There is a grain of truth in that. There were many distortions in the press while we were there. Things were reported that no one at all had said. Yet to them any careless word is explosive. One must not err in one direction or the other. Incidentally, news was censored during the war in the Persian Gulf, with only CNN having access to it. Maybe now is the time for that there, in Nagorno-Karabakh? At any rate, they asked that only journalists from Kazakhstan and Russia be entitled to provide official objective information. They no longer trust themselves even."

It may be apocryphal, but it was related by a witness. At Mineralnyy Vody airport, before the flight to Alma-Ata, someone put to N. Nazarbayev the far from innocent question what brandy he would be drinking to set himself up for the journey: Armenian or Azerbaijani.

Nazarbayev instantly replied:

"Vodka."

Kyrgyzstan

Communists Expected To Campaign Against Akayev

PM2609151191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Aleksandr Ryabushkin report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Presidential Candidate Is President"]

[Text] Bishkek—The first nationwide presidential election in Kyrgyzstan scheduled for 12 October will be uncontested.

Only one candidate—A. Akayev—has been registered at the Central Electoral Commission. He has agreed to run for this post.

This situation in the republic's political arena by no means signifies that Akayev's election campaign will be an easy stroll through the cities and villages of his native region. Quite recently the opposition Communist Party Central Committee was openly demanding nationwide presidential elections with an adequate base for restoring its lost power. It held powerful obkom, gorkom, and raykom [oblast, city, and rayon party committees] apparatuses that were waiting impatiently just for the order. The proven agitation machine would have begun to operate. To put it frankly, the local communists' leader—D. Amanbayev—had a chance of becoming president.

Today, after the well-known events, the party has officially ceased to exist. Its local leader is also under investigation; he backed the State Committee for the State of Emergency. But thousands of former apparatchiks, firm communists, are aggrieved and are preparing for a fight and for revenge. The idea is simple: to prevent A. Akayev from winning the requisite number of votes and then presenting new candidacies from the people. Their names are well-known—former high-ranking Communist Party Central Committee functionaries who now hold respectable posts in soviets at various levels and are waiting for their time to come. To give them their due, they know how to wait.

Akayev Decree on Military Construction Units

LD2609201991 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 26 Sep 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] From now on the young men of Kyrgyzstan will not serve in military construction units outside the

republic. A decree to this effect has been issued by Kyrgyzstan President Akayev.

All questions connected with the implementation of this decree will be coordinated with the Ministry of Defense and other ministries and departments of the USSR.

The president's decree only applies to military builders and does not extend to other branches of the forces.

Tajikistan

Discord in Dushanbe Unresolved, Problems Continue

'Political Strike' Possible

LD2609141691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Another hotspot has recently appeared—Tajikistan. Yusupov, chairman of the republic's Democratic Party, stated at a Dushanbe news conference that if the demands of the rally participants for the lifting of the state of emergency, the dissolution of the pro-communist parliament, and the resignation of Nabiyev were not met in the immediate future, the leaders of the Democratic Party would call upon the people of Tajikistan to stage an indefinite political strike.

Role of Militia Discussed

LD2609154991 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Remarks by Internal Affairs Minister Navzhuvanov in response to question by correspondent Ergashev from TAJIKTA, not further identified, date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] As previously reported, according to the decision of the Tajik Supreme Soviet, a state of emergency has been introduced in Dushanbe. What is the role of the militia in the implementation of this decision? Such a question was put to Internal Affairs Minister Navzhuvanov by Ergashev, the correspondent of TAJIKTA:

The state of emergency has been declared due to the considerably complicated situation in the city of Dushanbe, in particular concering what has been taking place over the past few days on Ozodi square. On prohibiting the holding of meetings, we are dutybound to comply with this decision. We trust, however, the sensibility of the participants of the meetings.

I, as minister for internal affairs of the republic, talked with the leaders of Rastokhez, the Democratic Party, and the Islamic Party of Rebirth, and we are counting on their goodwill, so as not to introduce the militia. The talks are continuing so we can find a peaceful way to deal with the present situation, stated Miinster Navzhuvanov. He added that the personnel of the Republic's Ministry of Internal Affairs, including the EVO [as heard], Spetsnaz, and the internal troops are still in barracks.

The militia has sufficient strength but they will only be used under extreme circumstances—if mass disorders arise. The laws should be implemented unconditionally. He added that there should be no clashes. What concerns us is the meeting, that the people gather peacefully, and that they should disperse in the same manner. The laws are the (?same) for everyone, and citizens ought to observe them.

Legality of State of Emergency

LD2609162491 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Has the state of emergency in the city of Dushanbe been legally introduced by the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic on 24 September? Listen to the interview of our correspondent with Lieutenant of Law Kavalenka Constantin Ivanovich, assistant to the procurator of Dushanbe Garrison.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Speaking just now at the meeting, you said that the introduction of the state of emergency in the city is illegal. Explain your position.

[Constantin] First, the most important point: The state of emergency in the Republic has been illegally declared. I will explain. The state of emergency was introduced by organs that may introduce this state of emergency—by the republic Supreme Soviet—and it can only adopt this on a legal basis. An example would be during disasters, epidemics, infections, and mass disorders. That is all. There are no other legal bases, nor have there been. When this state of emergency was introduced, there were no and there are no mass disorders, not in the city of Dushanbe, and not on the territory of the republic.

I believe that the current state of emergency has been introduced with only one aim—to wreck the first national presidential elections and to hinder the chances for holding free elections. This is because the elected chairman of the Supreme Soviet is one of the candidates. The Supreme Soviet can make such a decision and elect him chairman of the Supreme Soviet, but it is illegal for the chairman of the Supreme Soviet to define a regime for a state of emergency, to impose censorship on the mass media, or to prohibit such meetings and demonstrations that express the free will and tendency of the citizen. This is not permissible. One must not talk of any kind of equality under such elections. [end recording]